PAT

METHENY

S O N G

BOK

THE COMPLETE COLLECTION—167 COMPOSITIONS

Music by Pat Metheny, Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays, and other collaborations from his entire discography.

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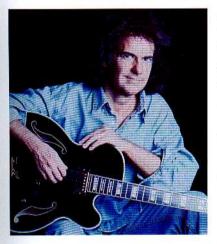
Pat Metheny is quite simply one of the most important voices in the history of jazz. His unique approach to the guitar and his incredible writing skills have produced a significant body of work that places him among the major musical figures of our time. It's hard to think of many artists, jazz or otherwise, who have had the longevity, the creative prowess, the continued personal character, and the drive to push the boundaries of music forward so successfully.

Metheny is a true pioneer, researcher, and musical visionary whose relentless search for creative challenge has been and continues to be a hallmark of his career. This book spans 25 years of his music—music that will certainly be valued for its innovation, freshness, and beauty for generations to come.

-The Editors

# BIOGRAPHY

at Metheny was born in Kansas City on August 12, 1954. Raised in a musical family, Metheny began playing trumpet at the age of 8, then switched to guitar at age 12. By the age of 15, he was working regularly with the best jazz musicians in Kansas City, receiving valuable onthe-bandstand experience at an unusually young age. In 1974, Metheny burst onto the international



jazz scene. Over the course of his three-year stint with vibraphone great Gary Burton, the young Missouri native already displayed his soon-to-become trademarked playing style, which blended the loose and flexible articulation customarily reserved for horn players with an ad-

vanced rhythmic and harmonic sensibility—a way of playing and improvising that was modern in conception but grounded deeply in the jazz tradition of melody, swing, and the blues. With the release of his first album, *Bright Size Life* (1976), he reinvented the traditional "jazz guitar" sound for a new generation of players. Throughout his career, Pat Metheny has continued to redefine the genre by utilizing new technology and constantly working to evolve the improvisational and sonic potential of his instrument.

Metheny's versatility is almost nearly without peer among instrumentalists. Over the years, he has performed with artists as diverse as Steve Reich, Ornette Coleman, Herbie Hancock, Joni Mitchell, Milton Nascimento, and David Bowie. He has been part of a writing team with keyboardist Lyle Mays for more than twenty years—an association that has been compared to the Lennon/McCartney and Ellington/Strayhorn partnerships by critics and listeners alike. Metheny's body of work includes compositions for solo guitar, small

ensembles, electric and acoustic instruments, and large orchestras, with settings ranging from modern jazz to rock to classical to ballet.

As well as being an accomplished musician, Metheny has also participated in the academic arena as a music educator. At 18, he was the youngest teacher ever at the University of Miami. At 19, he became the youngest teacher ever at the Berklee College of Music, where he also received an honorary doctorate some twenty years later (1996). Metheny has taught music workshops all over the world, from the Dutch Royal Conservatory, to the Thelonius Monk Institute of Jazz, to clinics in Asia and South America. He has also been a true musical pioneer in the realm of electronic music, being one of the very first jazz musicians to treat the synthesizer as a serious musical instrument. Years before the invention of MIDI technology, Metheny was using the Synclavier as a composing tool. He has likewise been instrumental in the development of several new kinds of guitars such as the soprano acoustic guitar, the 42-string Pikasso guitar, Ibanez's PM-100 jazz guitar, and a variety of other custom instruments.

It is one thing to attain popularity as a musician, but it is another to receive the kind of acclaim Metheny has garnered from critics and peers. Over the years, Metheny has won countless polls as "Best Jazz Guitarist"-and innumerable awards, including three gold records for (Still Life) Talking, Letter from Home, and Secret Story. He has also won twelve Grammy Awards, including an unprecedented seven consecutive wins for seven consecutive albums. Metheny has spent most of his life on tour, averaging 120-240 shows a year since 1974. At the time of this writing, he continues to be one of the brightest stars of the jazz community, dedicating time to both his own projects and those of emerging artists and established veterans alike, helping them to reach their audience as well as realizing their own artistic visions.

### **Pat Metheny Recordings**



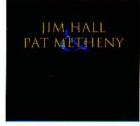
#### 2000 - TRIO 99→00

Pat Metheny: guitar; Larry Grenadier: bass; Bill Stewart: drums. Another classic Metheny trio recording featuring the interplay of Pat's guitar with two of the most interesting young musicians on the New York jazz scene, Larry Grenadier (bassist from pianist Brad Mehldau's trio) and Bill Stewart. This trio toured for six weeks in the summer of 1999 before going directly into the studio to record five new Metheny originals, compositions by Wayne Shorter, John Coltrane, and others.



#### 1999 - A MAP OF THE WORLD

Pat Metheny: acoustic guitars, piano, and keyboards; Steve Rodby: acoustic bass; Dave Samuels: percussion; and 42-piece chamber orchestra conducted by Gil Goldstein. Music from and inspired by the feature film A Map of the World starring Sigourney Weaver and Julianne Moore. Metheny's hauntingly beautiful and lush score conjures up Midwestern landscapes as it features acoustic guitar playing reminiscent of his work on Beyond the Missouri Sky matched with the orchestral scale and emotional impact of Secret Story



#### 1999 - JIM HALL & PAT METHENY

Jim Hall: electric guitar; Pat Metheny: electric guitar, acoustic guitars, fretless guitar, and 42-string guitar. Picked as Best Jazz Album of 1999 by Entertainment Weekly magazine. An incredible and wildly successful meeting of two of the most influential guitarists of their respective generations in jazz. Hall and Metheny combine effortlessly to create an album of constant interplay, varied textures, and genuine empathy.



#### 1999 - LIKE MINDS

Gary Burton: vibraphone; Chick Corea: piano; Pat Metheny: guitar, Roy Haynes: drums; and Dave Holland: bass. One of the landmark jazz recordings of the late '90s. A meeting of five of the most advanced improvisers in modern jazz-each with an individuality and conception all their own. This marked the first recorded meeting between Metheny and Corea. Nominated for a 1999 Grammy for Best Jazz Performance.



#### 1997 - IMAGINARY DAY

Pat Metheny: acoustic, electric & synth guitars; Lyle Mays: acoustic piano, keyboards; Steve Rodby: acoustic & electric bass; Paul Wertico: drums; Mark Ledford: vocals, trumpet, flugelhorn, bass trumpet; David Blamires: vocals, mellophone, baritone acoustic guitar, electric guitar, violin, recorder, trumpet. With this recording, the PMG re-invented their sound, taking it into an imaginary future. By focusing on long-form pieces and expanding on what Metheny himself calls "the trip quotient" that those kinds of extended pieces have long represented in the group's repertoire, this record stands as one of the best modern recordings of its time.



#### 1997 - BEYOND THE MISSOURI SKY

Charlie Haden: bass: Pat Metheny acoustic guitars and all other instruments. After years of hinting at such a collaboration, Pat and Charlie came up with what some are calling a timeless classic. Incorporating elements of jazz, folk, and country, Charlie sums it up best by describing it as "contemporary impressionistic Americana." Grammy winner, 1997.



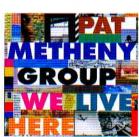
#### 1996 - PASSAGGIO PER IL PARADISO

Pat Metheny: All instruments (keyboards, piano, guitars, percussion, etc.). Music from the Italian film Passaggio Per Il Paradiso that starred legendary American actress Julie Harris in one of her finest roles. Metheny evokes the feeling of the Marche region of Italy with this heartfelt score that is filled with hope. The song "Don't Forget" is featured at the San Remo Song Festival at the time of this album's release.



#### 1996 - QUARTET

Pat Metheny: acoustic & electric guitars, 12string guitar, 42-string pikasso guitar, E-Bows and slide, soprano guitars, fretless, guitar synth; Lyle Mays: piano, non-tuned spinet piano, celeste, pedal harmonium, autoharps, electric piano, clavinet; Steve Rodby: acoustic bass, piccolo bass; Paul Wertico: drums, percussion. This recording features the core group (Lyle, Steve, Paul) playing music that was assembled with little rehearsal or improvised entirely. The only instruments used were acoustic in nature or close to it. A recording of great range and beauty as the group continues its musical journey.



#### 1995 - WE LIVE HERE

Pat Metheny; guitars, guitar synths; Lyle Mays: piano, keyboards; Steve Rodby: acoustic & electric basses; Paul Wertico: drums; David Blamires: vocals; Mark Ledford: vocals, whistling, flugethorn, trumpet; Luis Conte: percussion. New ground broken here as the group melds drum loops with great improvising and hip chord changes. Winner of the group's seventh consecutive Grammy Award.



#### 1994 – I CAN SEE YOUR HOUSE FROM HERE

John Scofield and Pat Metheny: electric and acoustic guitars; Steve Swallow: electric bass and acoustic bass guitar; Bill Stewart: drums. The two most important and influential jazz guitarists of the day team up for an intriguing session. More like two old friends comparing notes albout a favorite subject than the dreaded "cutting contest" mentality that often pervades these types of encounters, Metheny and Scofield together successfully illuminate just how far the guitar has evolved in recent years and how effective it has become as a jazz instrument.



#### 1992 - SECRET STORY

Pat Metheny: acoustic and electric guitars, piano, keyboards, electric bass, etc. with the London Orchestra conducted by leremy Lubbock and guest musicians, Charlie Haden, Nana Vasconcelos, Akiko Yano, Steve Ferrone, Armando Marçal, Toots Theilmans, Lyle Mays, Will Lee, Steve Rodby, Gill Goldstein, Paul Wertico, Mark Ledford, and others. Unquestionably one of Pat's most personal and deeply felt musical statements. In addition to the emotional factor, Secret Story also exhibits Pat's growth as a composer, From its Copland-like orchestrations to its Cambodian children's choir, Secret Story is truly a culmination of everything Pat has done to date. Grammy winner, 1993.



#### 1987 - STILL LIFE (TALKING)

Pat Metheny: acoustic & electric guitars, guitar synthesizers; Lyle Mays: piano, keyboards; Steve Rodhy: acoustic & electric bass; Paul Wertico: drums; Armando Marçal: percussion, voice; David Blamires: voice; Mark Ledford: voice. Still Life (Taking) exhibits a natural progression of the upbeat Brazilian influence found on First Orche melded with lyrical ballads, alternative rhythms, and an increasingly complex range of instrumental voicings. The Group's most successful work to date. Grammy winner, 1987.



#### 1994 - ZERO TOLERANCE FOR SILENCE

Pat Metheny: guitar. Pat exposes a side of his musical life that has never been recorded before. Thurston Moore of Sonic Youth best describes this recording: "The most radical recording of this decade... a new milestone in electric guitar music...searing, soaring, twisted shards of action guitar/ thought process. An incendiary work by an unpredictable master, a challenge to the challengees...."



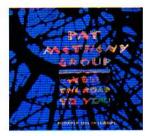
#### 1990 - QUESTION & ANSWER

Pat Metheny: guitar; Dave Holland: bass; Roy Haynes: drums. Pat's third trio release grew out of one day's worth of recording in a New York studio with jazz greats Dave Holland and Roy Haynes. The dizzying interplay between the three veterans, the guitar's voice darting within and around Hayne's and Holland's metodic, polyphonic rhythms, highlights Pat's expanding musical sensitivity and imagination. Grammy winner, 1990.



#### 1986 - SONG X

Pat Metheny: guitar, guitar synthesizer; Ornette Coleman: alto saxophone, violin; Charlie Haden: bass; Jack DeJohnette: drums; Denardo Coleman: drums, percussion. Song X brought Metheny together with Ornette Coleman, the revolutionary alto saxophonist (composer. Song X breaks sonic barriers while retaining the basics of all that is vital to improvisational music: boundless spirit, inexorable drive, and the timeless cry of the blues. Pat and Ornette were joined by Charlie Haden on acoustic bass, Jack DeJohnette on drums, and Denardo Coleman on percussion and drums.



#### 1993 - THE ROAD TO YOU

Pat Metheny: guitars, guitar synths; Lyle Mays: piano, keyboards; Steve Rodby: acoustic & electric basses; Paul Wertico: drums, percussion; Armando Marçal: percussion, timbales, congas, voice; Pedro Aznar: voice, acoustic guitar, percussion, sax, steel drums, vibes, marimba, melodica. The first live recording of the Pat Metheny Group in ten years. Recorded in Europe, this compilation contains four new songs as well as many of the group's favorites. Grammy winner, 1994.



### 1989 – LETTER FROM HOME

Pat Metheny: electric & acoustic guitars, 12string guitar, soprano guitars, tiple, guitar synthesizers, Synclavier; Lyle Mays: piano, organ, keyboards, accordion, trumpet, Synclavier; Steve Rodby: acoustic & electric basses; Paul Wertico: drums, caja, percussion; Pedro Aznar: voice, acoustic, guitar, marimba, vibes, tenor sax, charango, melodica, percussion; Armando Marçal: percussion. Letter from Home reveals a musical unit that has mastered the compositional and arranging challenges posed by the diverse influences married within their work. Concise, powerful, unmistakably: melodic and quite memorable. Letter from Home is a message of matunity and accomplishment from a group in top form. Grammy winner, 1989.



#### 1985 – THE FALCON AND THE SNOWMAN

Pat Metheny: guitar synthesizer, acoustic & electric guitars; Lyle Mays: synthesizers, piano; Sleve Rodby: acoustic & electric guitars; Lyle Mays: synthesizers, piano; Sleve Rodby: acoustic & electric basses; Paul Wertico: drums, percussion; Dedro Aznar: voice; Special guest: David Bowie. Metheny teamed with his frequent writing partner and Pat Metheny Group keyboardist, Lyle Mays, to compose the soundtrack for John Schlesinger's critically acclaimed film The Falcon and the Snowman starring Timothy Hutton and Sean Penn. Included in the score was the international hit, "This Is Not America", recorded by David Bowie (who also contributed the lyrics) and the Pat Metheny Group.

# DISCOGRAPHY



#### 1984 - FIRST CIRCLE

Pat Metheny: electric & acoustic guitars, Synclavier guitar, guitar synthesizer; Lyfe Mays: piano, synthesizers, organ, trumpet, apogo bells: Steve Rodby: acoustic bass, bass guitar, bass drum; Paul Wertico: drums; Pedro Aznar voice, bells, percussion, glockenspiel, whistle, acoustic guitars. First Circle seamlessly melds the characteristic Metheny Group sound with the airy sonorities of Brazilian popular music. It introduced two new members to the Group; drummer Paul Wertico and multi-instrumentalist/vocalist Pedro Aznar. First Circle also yielded an imaginative video piece keyed to the song "Yolanda, You Learn." Crammy winner, 1984.



#### 1983 - REIOICING

Pat Metheny: guitars: Charlie Haden: bass; Billy Higgins: drums. Pat joined forces with the unmatchable bass/drum team of Charlie Haden and Billy Higgins, best known for their work with jazz pioneer Ornette Coleman. The trio offers a superlative jazz set with material by Ornette Coleman, Horace Silver, and Charlie Haden, plus two Metheny originals.



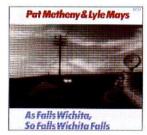
#### 1983 - TRAVELS

Pat Metheny: guitars, guitar synthesizer; Lyle Mays: piano, synthesizers, organ, autoharp, Synclavier; Dan Gottlieb: drums; Steve Rodby: acoustic & electric bass, bass synthesizer; Special guest: Nana Vasconcelos: percussion, voice, berimbau. This first representation of the Group in concert featured live versions of both earlier compositions and new tunes. Grammy winner, 1983.



#### 1982 - OFFRAMP

Pat Metheny: guitar synthesizer, guitar Synclavier, guitar; Lyle Mays: piano synthesizer, autoharp, organ, Synclavier; Steve Rodhy: acoustic & electric bass; Nana Vasconcelos: percussion, vocals, berimbau; Dan Gottlieb: drums. Olframp was the first Metheny Group LP since American Garage. By turns coolly futuristic (Pat's first recording with guitar synthesizer) and buoyantly optimistic, Metheny deems this album as "probably the most diverse within itself." Grammy winner, 1982.



#### 1981 – AS FALLS WICHITA, SO FALLS WICHITA FALLS

Pat Metheny: electric and acoustic 6- & 12string guitars, bass; Lyle Mays: piano
synthesizers, organ, autoharp; Nana
Vasconcelos: percussion, vocals,
berimbau, drums. As Falls Wichita, So Falls
Wichita Falls took another new track: farreaching duets between Metheny and
Mays, occasionally abetted by the
Brazilian percussionist Nana Vasconcelos,
on material that was sometimes fully
composed and at other times entirely
improvised.



#### 1980 - 80/81

Pat Metheny: guitar; Charlie Haden: bass; Jack Defofuette: drums; Dewey Redman: tenor saxophone; Michael Becker: tenor saxophone. 80/81 was four sides of spontaneous combustion with Metheny moving to the outside with such prime jazz modernists as tenor saxophonists Michael Brecker and Dewey Redman, bassist Charlie Haden, and drummer Jack DeJohnette.



#### 1979 - AMERICAN GARAGE

Pat Metheny: 6- & 12-string guitars; Lyle Mays: piano, Oberheim autoharp, organ; Mark Egan: bass; Dan Gottlieb: drums. American Garage evinced the Pat Metheny Group's more rockish side.



#### 1979 - NEW CHAUTAUQUA

Pat Metheny: electric 6- & 12-string guitars, acoustic guitar, 15-string harp guitar, electric bass. New Chautauqua was a stunning departure, a cycle of songs with a haunting pastoral air performed on acoustic guitar, electric 6- and 12-strings, 15-string harp guitar, and electric bass.



### 1978 - PAT METHENY GROUP

Pat Metheny: 6- & 12-string guitars; Lyle Mays: piano, Oberheim synthesizer, autoharp; Mark Egan: bass; Dan Gottlieb: drums. Seeds bloomed on this album, which quickly topped the jazz charts and gained many rock fans' ears without bludgeoning them with meaningless licks.



#### 1977 - WATERCOLORS

Pat Metheny: 6- & 12-string guitars, 15string harp guitar; Lyle Mays: piano; Eberhard Weber: bass; Dan Gottlieb: drums. Watercolors was an embryonic Pat Metheny Group effort, wherein Pat recorded for the first time with Lyle Mays and Dan Gottlieb.



### 1976 – BRIGHT SIZE LIFE

Pat Metheny: 6-string guitar, electric 12string guitar; Jaco Pastorius: bass; Bob Moses: drums. Pat was joined by the brilliant electric bassist Jaco Pastorius and drummer Bob Moses. The album introduced he leader's cyclical, engaging compositions and his unique instrumental conception.

### OTHER COLLABORATIVE WORKS

Michael Brecker, *Time Is of the Essence*, 1999 Jim Hall, *By Arrangement*, 1998

Kenny Garrett, Pursuance: The Music of John Coltrane, 1996

Michael Brecker, Tales from the Hudson, 1996

Marc Johnson's Bass Desires, The Sound of Summer Running, 1996

Tony Williams, Wilderness, 1996

Abbey Lincoln, A Turtle's Dream, 1995

Bruce Hornsby, Hot House, 1995

Roy Haynes, Te Vou, 1994

Milton Nascimento, Angelus, 1994

Trilok Gurtu, Crazy Saints, 1993

Bruce Hornsby, Harbor Lights, 1993

Joshua Redman, Wish, 1993

Pat Metheny, Stone Free: A Tribute to Jimi Hendrix, 1993

Akiko Yano, Love Life, 1993

Gary Thomas, Till We Have Faces, 1992

Pat Metheny, Toys (Movie Soundtrack), 1992

Pat Metheny Group, More Travels (Video), 1992

DeJohnette/Hancock/Holland/Metheny, In Concert (Video), 1991

Jack DeJohnette, Parallel Realities, 1990

Gary Burton, Reunion, 1990

Toninho Horta, Moonstone, 1989

Akiko Yano, Welcome Back, 1989

Steve Reich, Electric Counterpoint-Pat Metheny, 1989

Michael Brecker, Michael Brecker, 1987

Mike Metheny, Day In-Night Out, 1986

Bob Moses, The Story of Moses, 1986

Leila Pinheiro, Olho Nu, 1986

Pat Metheny, Twice in a Lifetime (Filmscore), 1985

Milton Nascimento, Encontros E Despedidas, 1984

Jerry Goldsmith, Under Fire (Soundtrack), 1983

Toninho Horta, Toninho Horta, 1980

Joni Mitchell, Shadows and Light, 1980

Gary Burton Quartet with Eberhard Weber, Passengers, 1977

Gary Burton, Dreams So Real, 1975

Gary Burton Quintet with Eberhard Weber, Ring, 1974

Paul Bley, Jaco, 1974

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S

### A Timeline of Guitar Innovations and Advancements

- Develops a unique way of mixing an extremely advanced and sophisticated sense of the traditional jazz language with the country-influenced or "Americana" elements that reflect his own Midwestern roots. Dozens of other artists are inspired to reexamine their own "heartland" roots.
- Is the first to extensively use electric 12-string guitars in odd tunings in a jazz setting, first in songs like "Midwestern Nights Dream" with the Gary Burton quintet, and later in "Icefire" and "San Lorenzo."
- Develops the use of pure pitch-to-synthesis playing via the interface for the Synclavier guitar, which he helped develop (later heard as a lead voice for the first time on "Daulton Lee"). During this same period, Pat begins using the Synclavier itself, triggered from the guitar, as a composing tool, pre-dating MIDI by several years.
  - Brings the use of nylon-string guitar played with a plectrum to a new and highly effective level of melodic development on songs such as "Farmer's Trust" and "If I Could" and later with the album Beyond the Missouri Sky.

1975 1977 1979 1980 1982

1986 198

Is the first to introduce the jazz public to what is now known as the "chorused" sound, using digital delay lines and multiple amplifiers, probably the single most imitated sound in jazz guitar of the seventies, eighties, and nineties.

- Is the first to employ the use of various types of specialty acoustic guitars (sometimes in odd tunings) in a jazz aesthetic. Songs like "Phase Dance" (1977) and "Sueño Con Mexico" brought the sound of a Nashville tuning to a jazz setting. The songs "New Chautauqua" and "Folk Songs #1" showed the kind of rhythmic energy associated with heavy rhythmic "strumming" merging with an almost bebop rhythmic aesthetic in an unprecedented and extremely influential way.
- Is the first to use multiple guitars onstage, using stands of his own invention, switching effortlessly between several guitars in the course of a single song to explore the textural possibilities of what the instrument can offer a jazz ensemble in a fresh new light.

Is the first to introduce the use of the guitar synth (Roland GR-300) effectively in an improvisational environment. Pat was the only major jazz guitarist to seriously commit to the exploration of synthesis on the instrument and has not abandoned it to this day. His pioneering work in that area has resulted in a fully realized way of using that technology so that it blends the traditional with the present ("Are You Going With Me?," "Song for Bilbao," "Endangered Species").

- Develops the soprano mini-guitar with Ibanez, an electric guitar tuned up an octave, heard on the song "Letter from Home."
- Develops a set of instruments that practically consist of a new branch on the guitar tree. Pat approaches Canadian luthier, Linda Manzer with some innovative ideas of what the guitar itself could actually be. Among the instruments introduced by Metheny and made for him by Manzer to his specs are the acoustic sitar/guitar ("Tears of Rain"), the soprano acoustic guitar ("A Map of the World"), and an assortment of tiples, miniatures, and multi-strung guitars. Their crowning collaboration has to be the 42-string Pikasso guitar, an instrument that has nearly the range of the piano with a timbre previously unheard in jazz (or any other genre for that matter), requiring a totally new guitar technique developed by Metheny ("Into the Dream").

• Introduces the sound of the electric sitar to jazz with the song "Last Train Home." While this sound had been occasionally used in the sixties and seventies on some R&B and rock tunes, it had never been featured as the main solo voice in a jazz improvisational context.

Develops the PM-100 jazz guitar with the Ibanez company in Japan, the first radically new body shape in a major commercially released jazz guitar since the late seventies.

Introduces the fretless classical guitar on the tune "Imaginary Day"— a nylon-stringed instrument that allows a new kind of phrasing. Also records with the VG-8, a new technology developed by the Roland company, featured on the track "The Roots of Coincidence", which wins a Grammy for "Best Rock Instrumental" the same year.

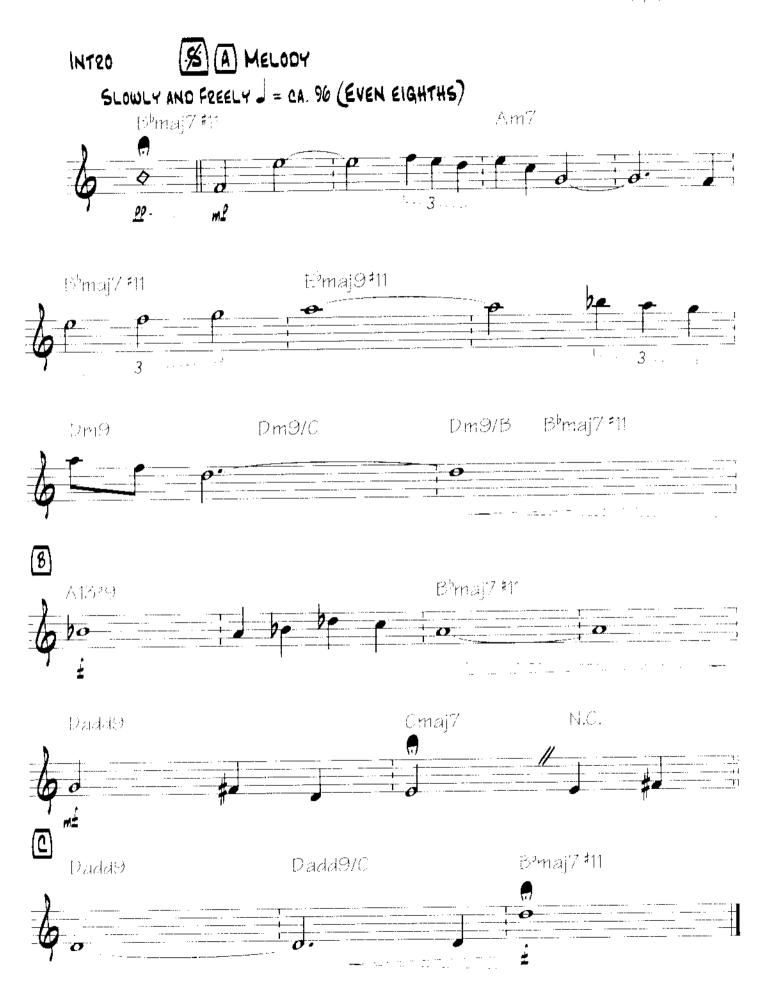
1992 1995 1997 1999

Develops a "monochromatic" alternative language to the instrument on records like Zero Tolerance for Silence and The Sign of 4. This proves to be an inscrutable challenge to even his most devoted fans—a rarity in the homogenized culture that pervades the agendas of most jazz and pop artists of the era.

Continues to develop the potential of a guitar, bass, and drums trio, one of the most challenging settings for any guitarist, by releasing *Trio 99→00* with Larry Grenadier and Bill Stewart. Pat's other records in that setting are some of the most important in jazz history: *Bright Size Life* with Jaco Pastorius and Bob Moses (1976), *Rejoicing* with Charlie Haden and Billy Higgins (1983), and *Question & Answer* with Dave Holland and Roy Haynes (1990).

## APRIL JOY



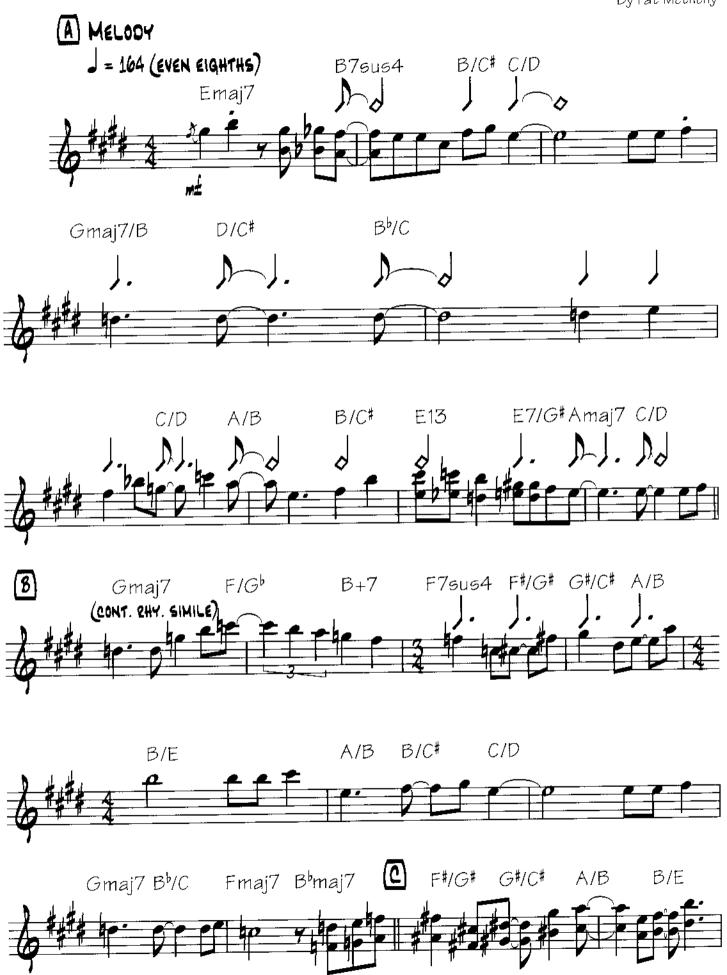




# BRIGHT SIZE LIFE



## OMAHA CELEBRATION





# UNITY VILLAGE





## MISSOURI UNCOMPROMISED





# MIDWESTERN NIGHTS DREAM







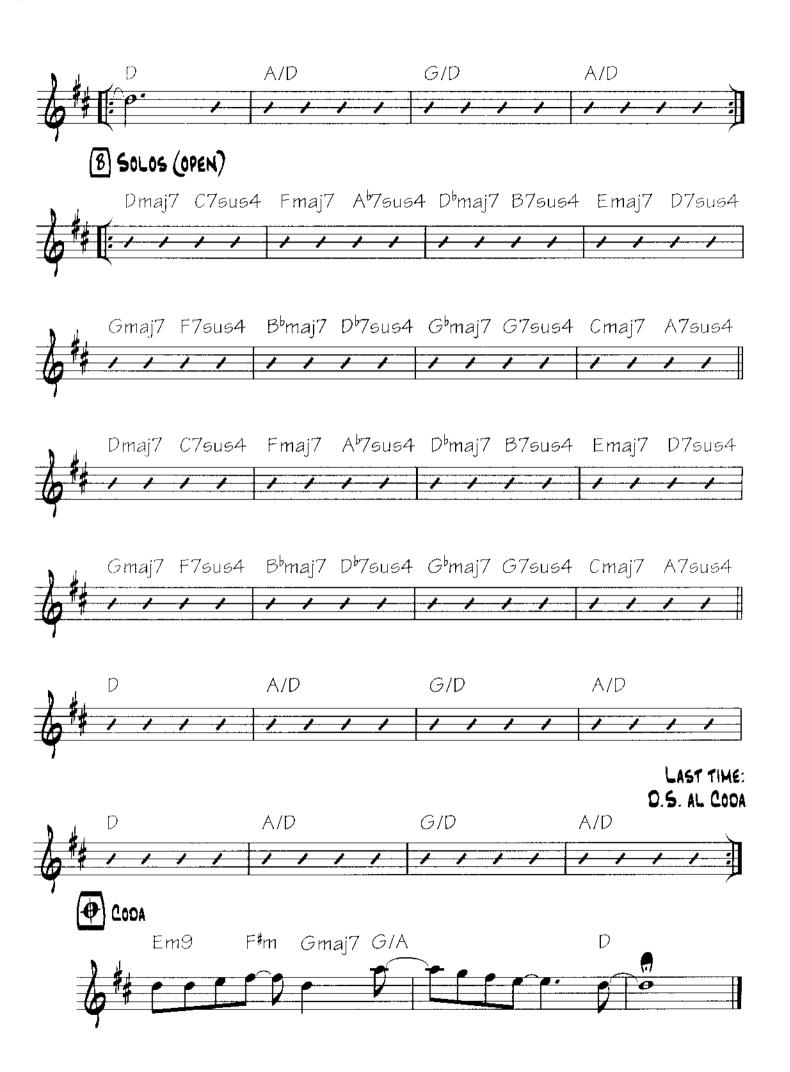




### LAKES

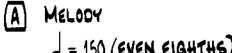
## Inteo Moderately J = 180 (Even eighths)





## WATERCOLORS

By Pat Metheny



J = 150 (EVEN EIGHTHS)
15T TIME FREELY, ALL OTHER TIMES A TEMPO



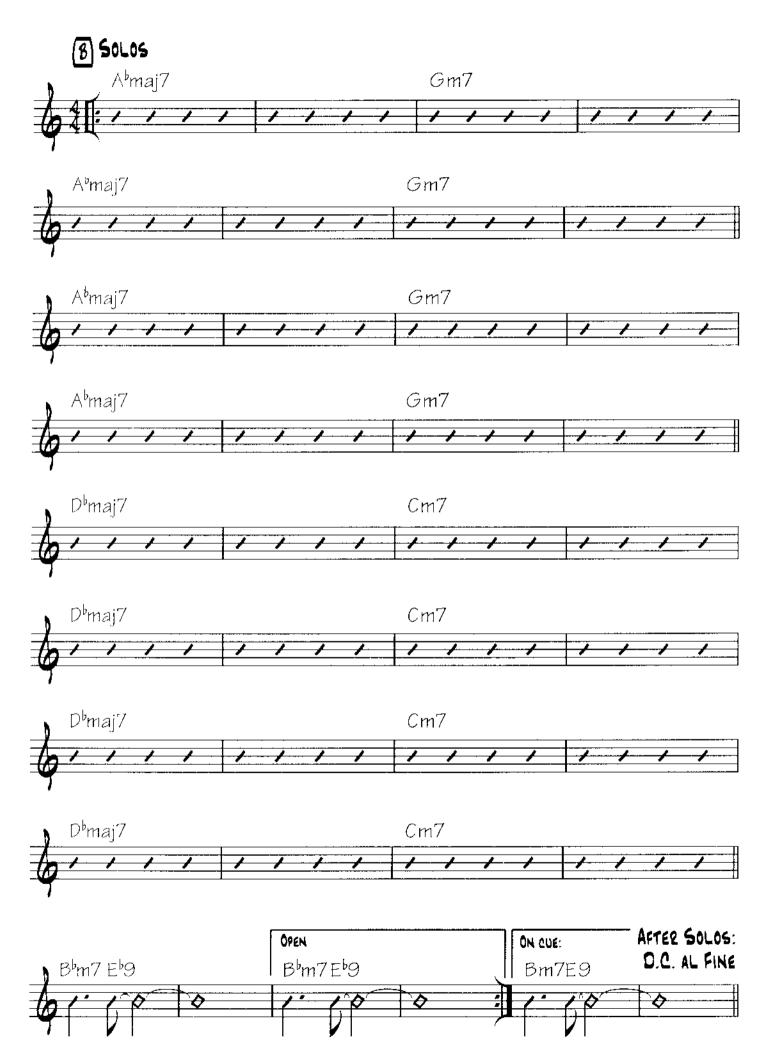








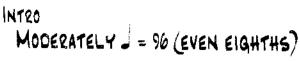






## RIVER QUAY

By Sat Without





### INTEO

J = 160 (Even eighths)

### SOLO VAMP





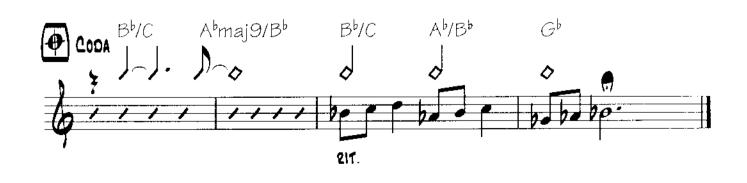












# APRIL WIND

By Pat Metheny INTEO = 145 (EVEN EIGHTHS) Fmaj7 Bm7 B<sup>b</sup>maj7**‡1**1 C/Bb Bb C/Bb



## IT'S FOR YOU

By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays













#### PHASE DANCE

By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays

INT20

J = 176 (Even eighths)



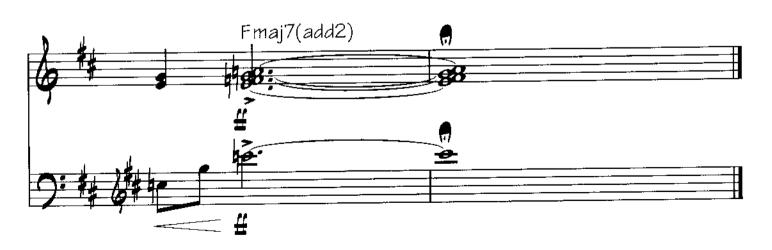


















### LONE JACK

A MELODY
SAMBA J = 176

By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays









### SAN LOPENZO

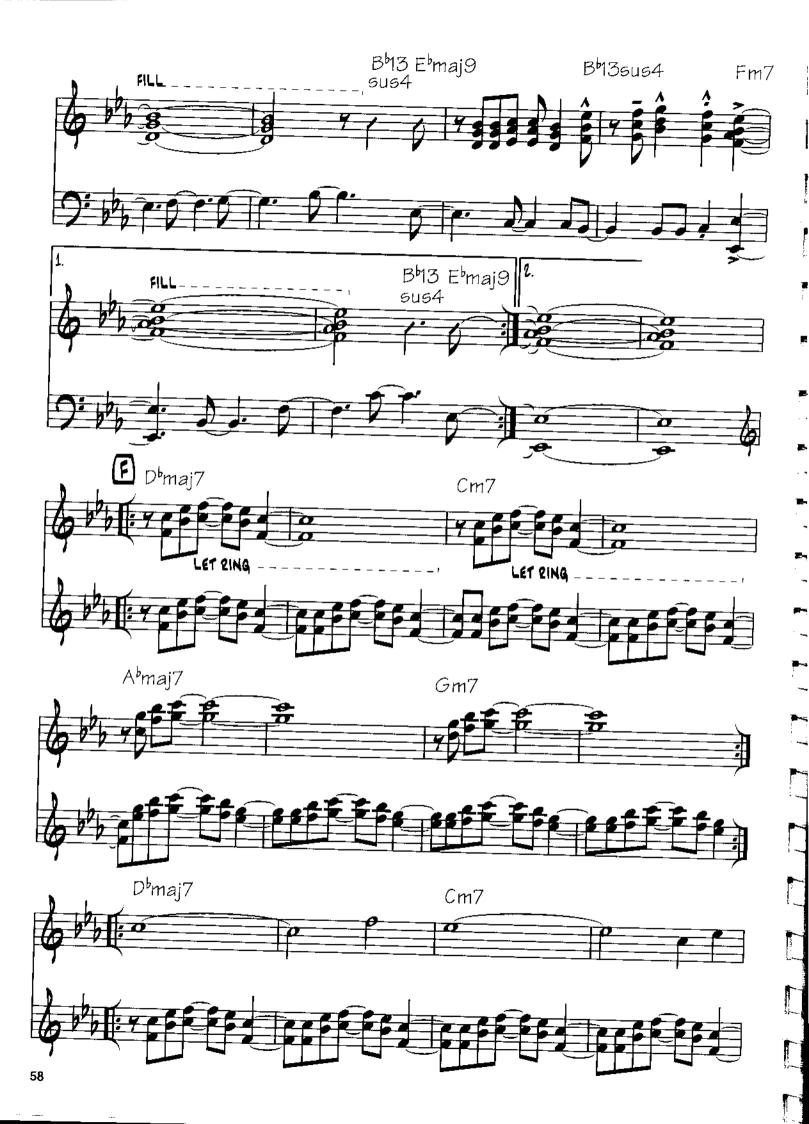
By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays









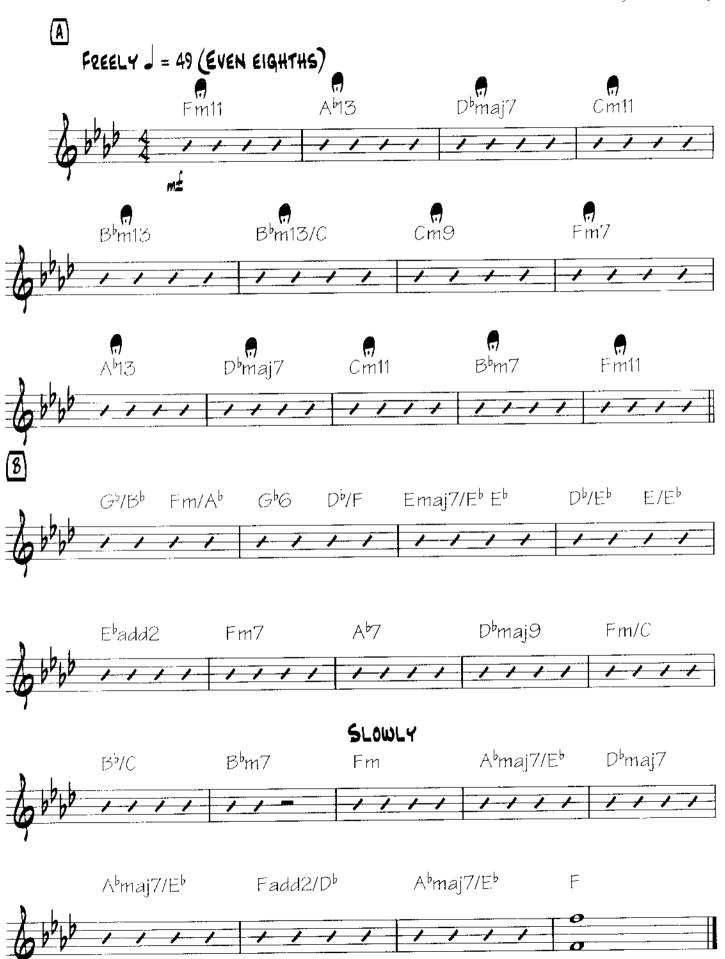






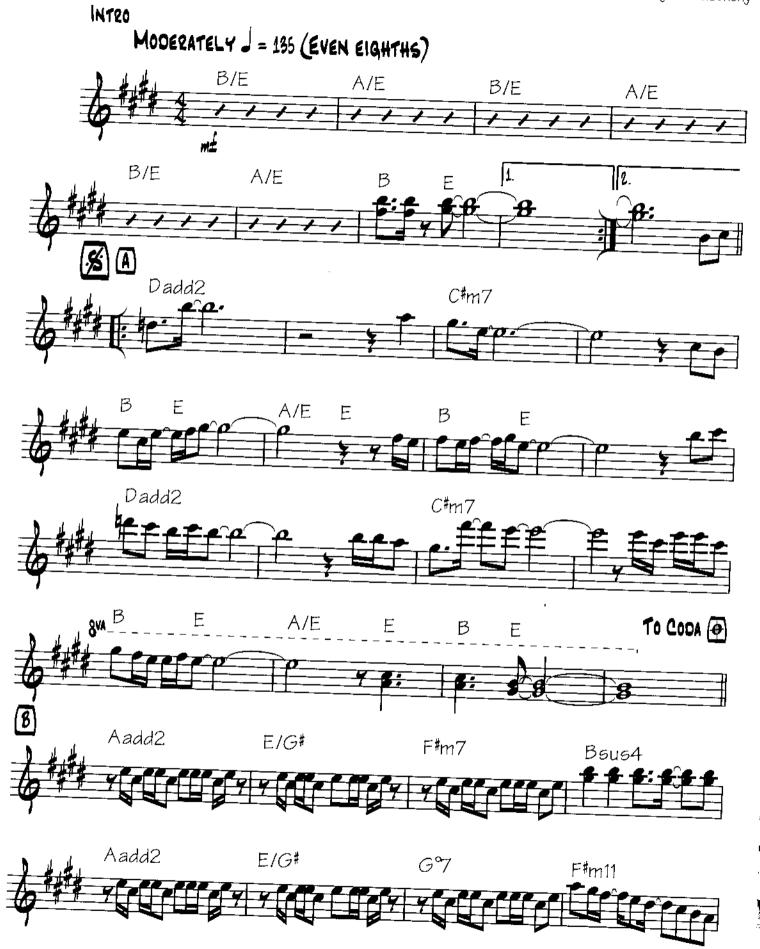
### LONG AGO CHILD

By Pat Metheny



## NEW CHAUTAUQUA

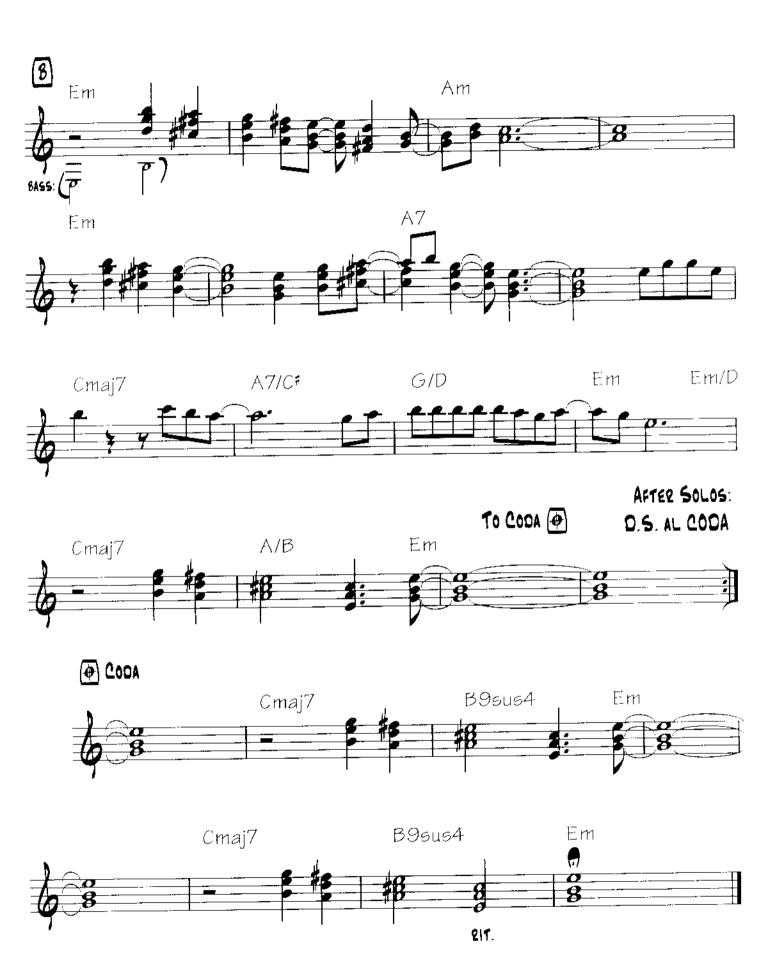
By Pat Metheny





## Hermitage





## SUEÑO CON MEXICO

By Pat Metheny



 $<sup>^{*}</sup>$  Strings 8-6 tuned one octave higher than in standard tuning.







# (CROSS THE) HEARTLAND

INTEO

By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays

J = 200 (Even eighths)









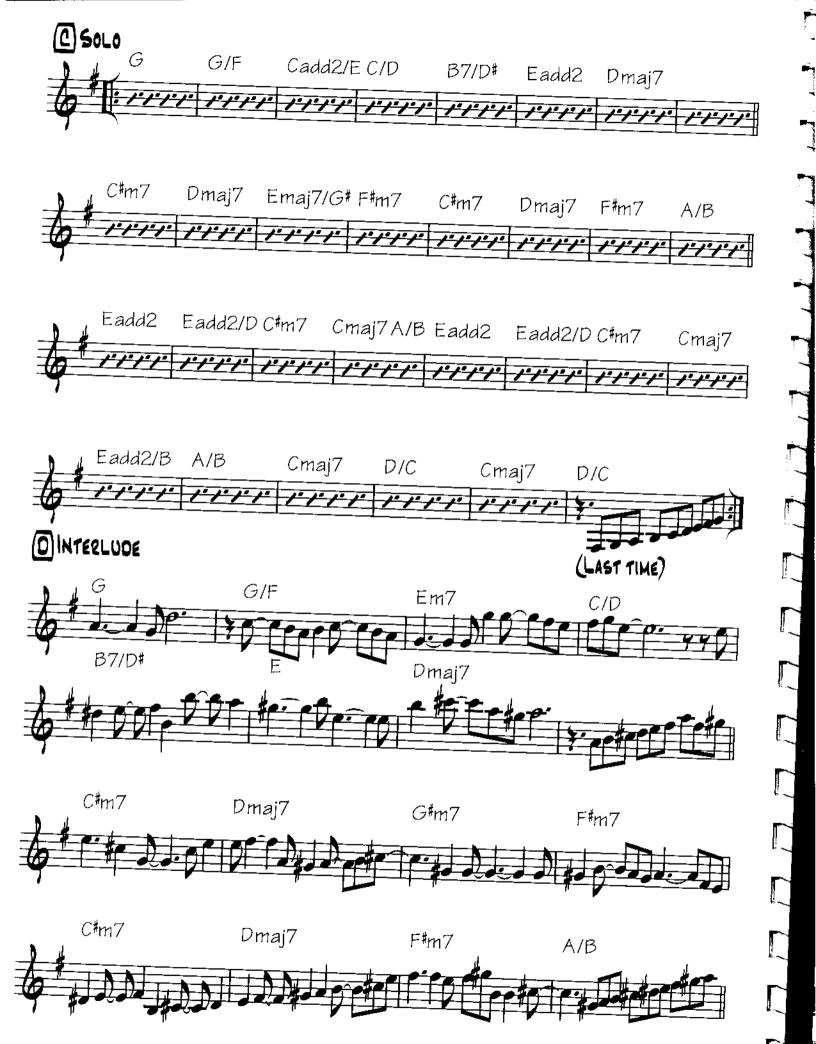


### THE SEARCH

INTEO

By Fat Methery



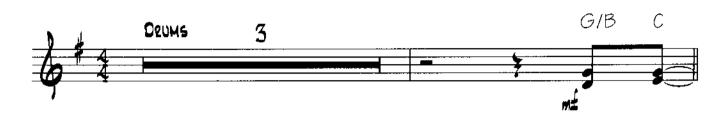




## AMERICAN GARAGE

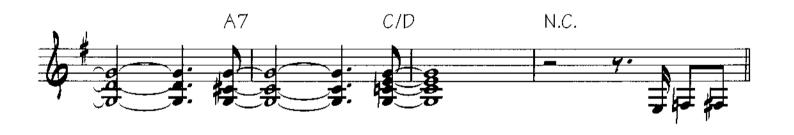
By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays

Intro Rock J = 135 (Even eighths)



















## AIRSTREAM

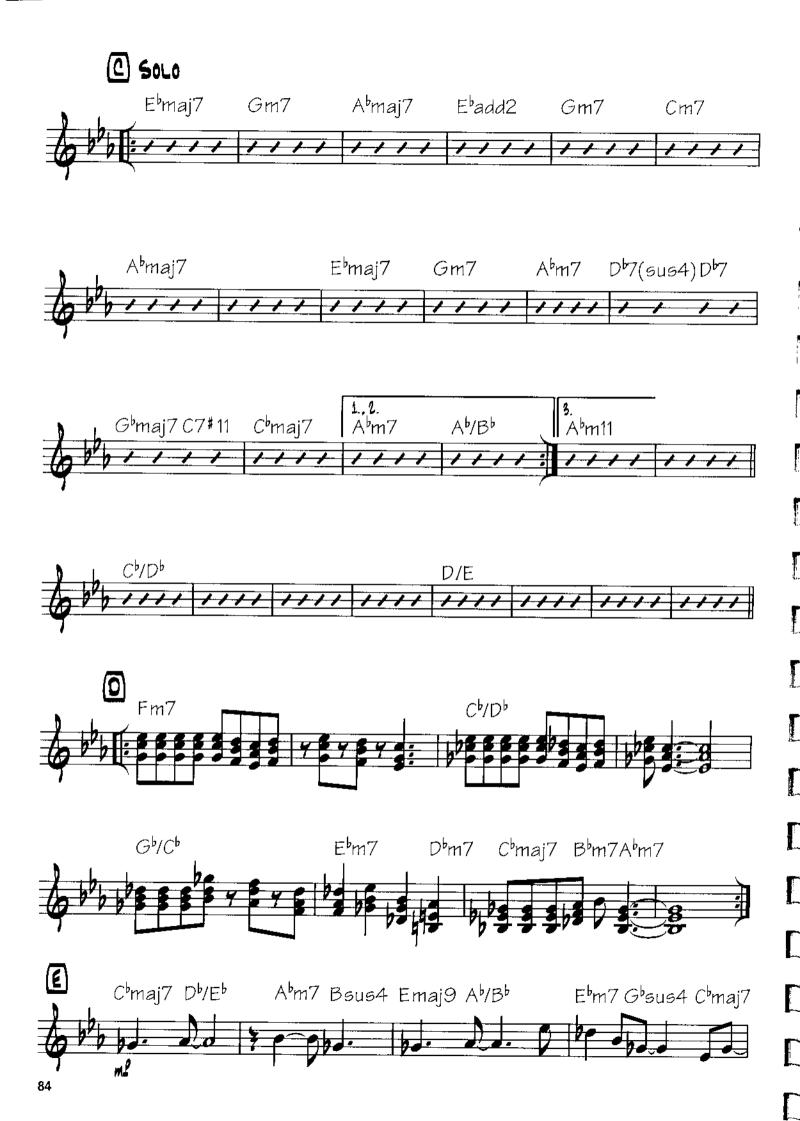
By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays

#### INTEO

### MODERATELY SLOW J = 130 (EVEN EIGHTHS)





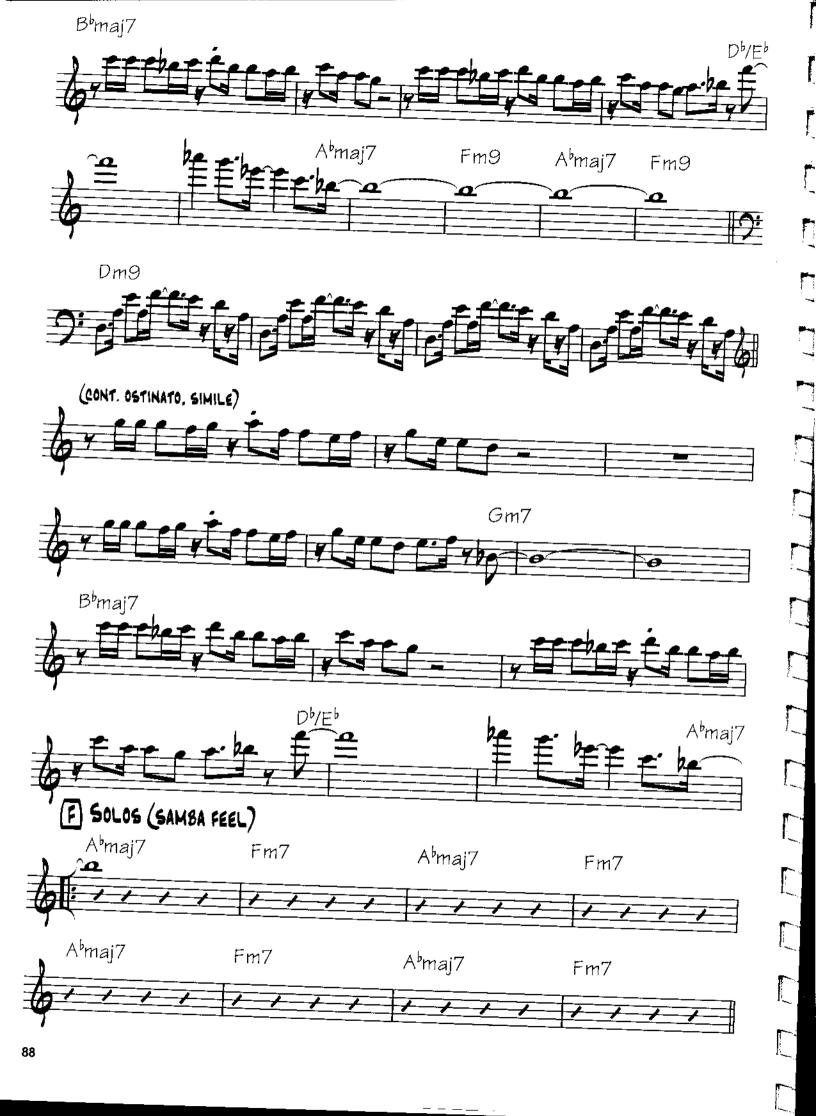




INTEO
J = 126 (EVEN EIGHTHS)















# EVERY DAY (1 THANK YOU)

By Pat Metherly

(A) RUBATO J = 60 (EVEN EIGHTHS)



217.

# INTERLUDE AND SOLO #1: DOUBLE TIME ( J = J ) 15T TIME CHORDS ONLY, 2ND TIME PLAY MELODY, REPEAT FOR SOLOS.





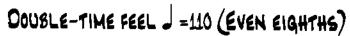
A By Pat Metheny UP J =224  $N.C.(E^b)$ m± FREELY (Bb)  $(E^b/B^b)$  $(B^b)$ (Eb/Bb)  $(A_{\flat}^{\flat})$  $(E^b/G)$  (Fm)  $(A^b/E^b)$  $(A^{\flat})$ A TEMPO  $N.C.(E^b)$ FINE <u>C</u> SOLOS ON CUE: D.C. AL FINE OPEN



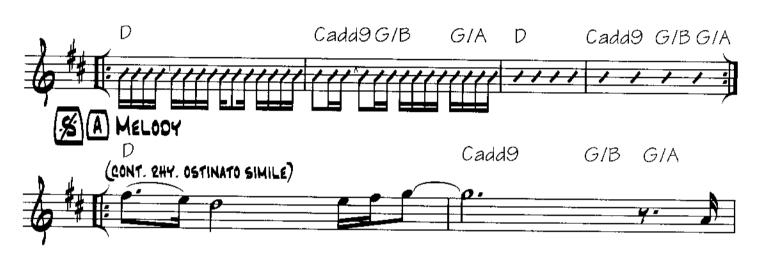
## FOLK SONG #1

INTEO

By Pat Metheny

















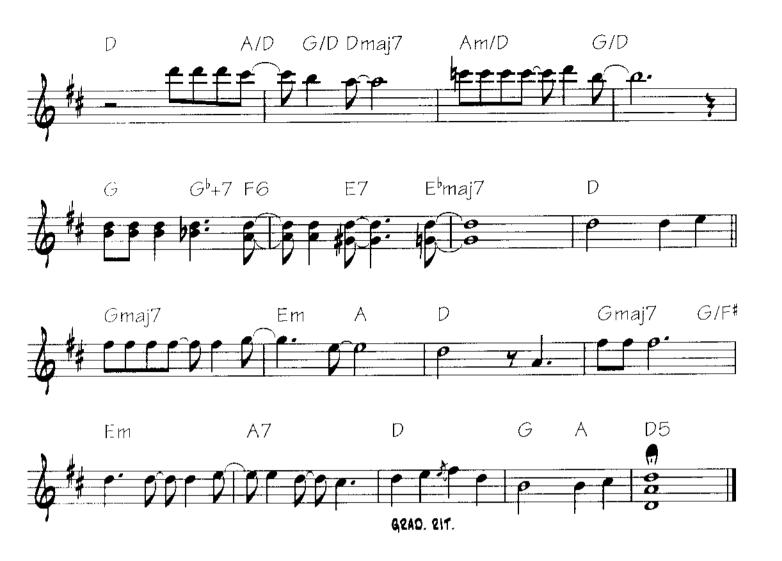
# PRETTY SCATTERED

By Pat Metheny













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#### SEPTEMBER FIFTEENTH

By Fat Methery and Lyle Mays

INTEO
RUBATO J = 40 (EVEN EIGHTHS)





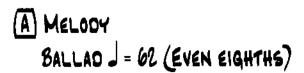






### TRAVELS

By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays













#### JAMES

By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays









## AS FALLS WICHITA, SO FALLS WICHITA FALLS















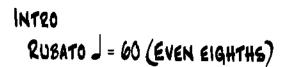




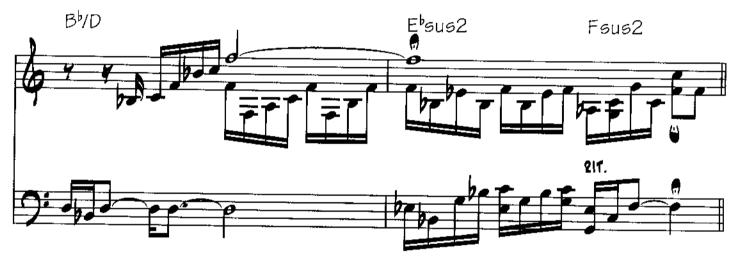


# ESTUPENDA GRACA

By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays









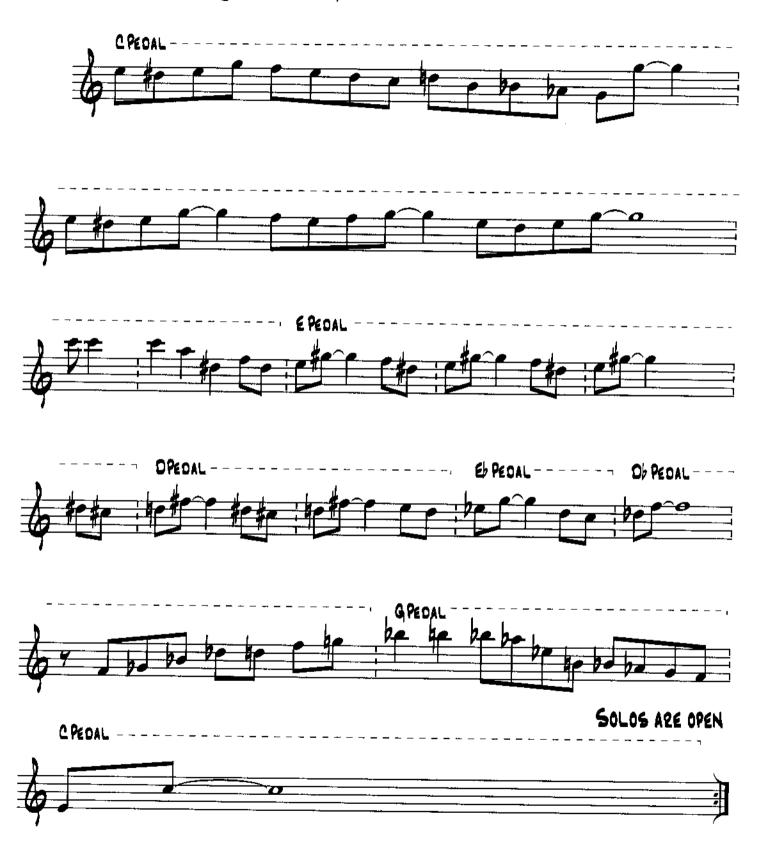




## OFFRAMP

By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays

#### FREELY J = 268 (EVEN EIGHTHS)



## BARCAROLE

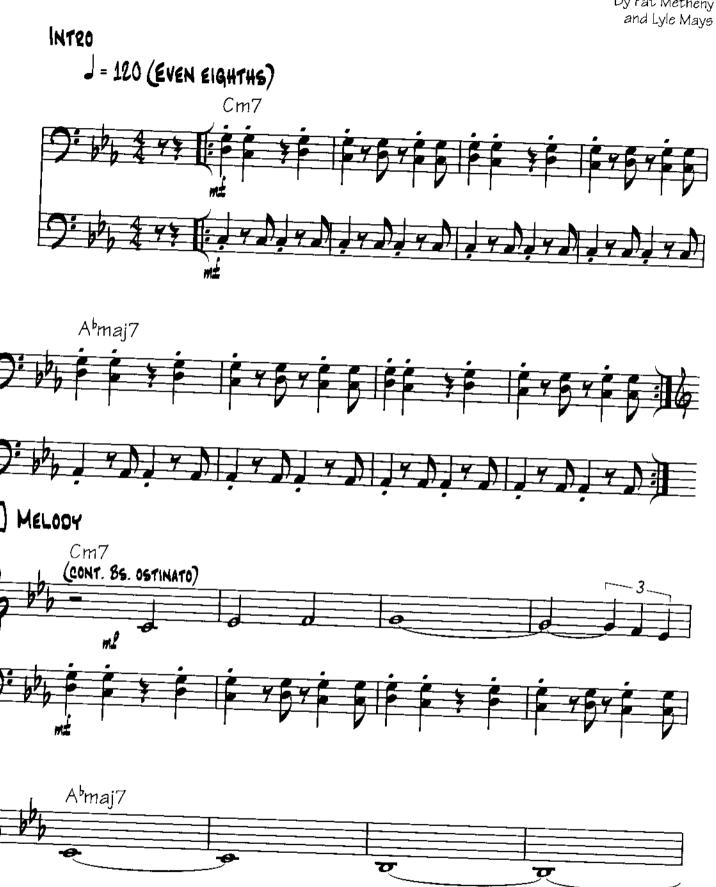






# ARE YOU GOING WITH ME?

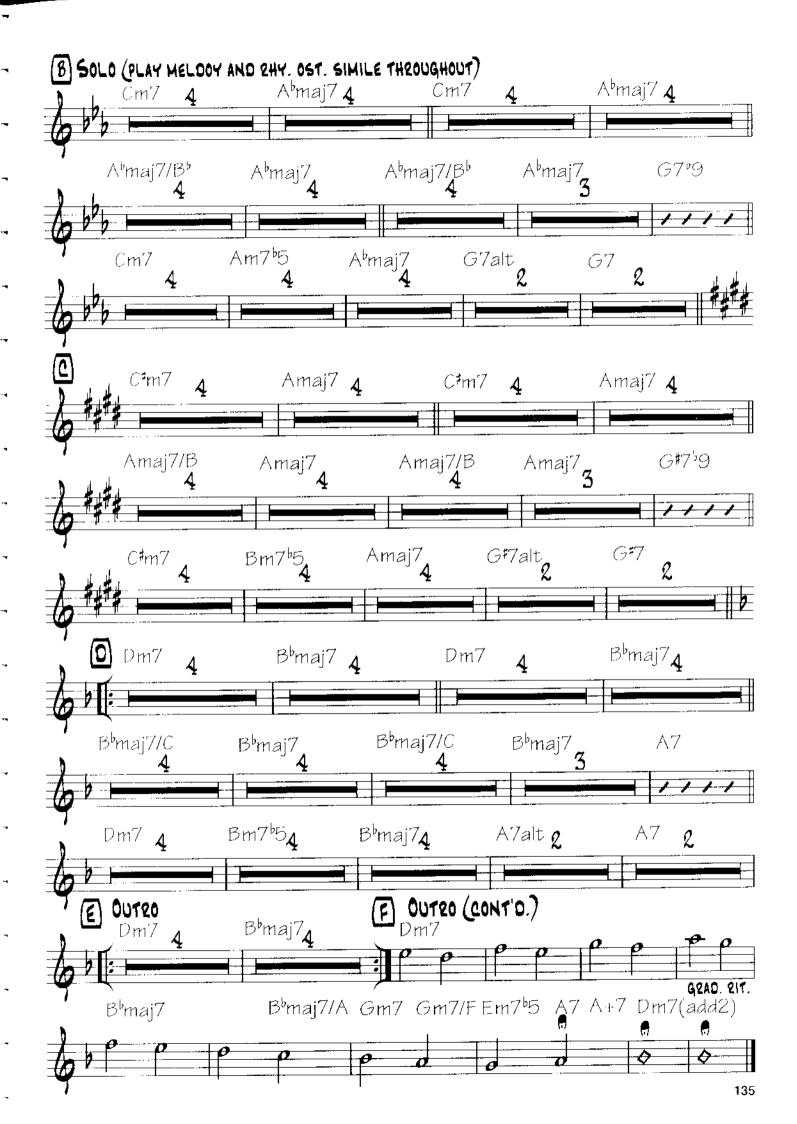
By Pat Metheny











# EIGHTEEN

By Pat Metheny, Lyle Mays and Nana Vasconcelos









INT20

WALT2 J = 132 (EVEN EIGHTHS)





FARMER'S TRUST By Pat Metheny WALT2 J = 69 (EVEN EIGHTHS) C#m7 F#769 F#769/B Bm Bm7G/B *G*7 Am7 D7sus4 D7 F/G Cadd9 Gsus4 G F/G GDb/Eb Εb Em7 C/E Csus4 C G7#9 G16 C769sus4/D6 C769 A<sup>b</sup>add9 TO CODA 🕀 Abmaj7 Ab7 (8) Cm9 Gm11 Fm9 Bb/Ab D A⁵maj7 Csus4 C Csus4 LAST TIME: Abmaj7Bb/Ab Csus4 C Csus4 C D.C. AL CODA 🎒 Con Cous4 Автај7 ВЫ<u>Ав</u>3\_ CCsus4

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## THE FIELDS, THE SKY

By Rat Methony

INTRO (VAMP) J = 126 (EVEN EIGHTHS)



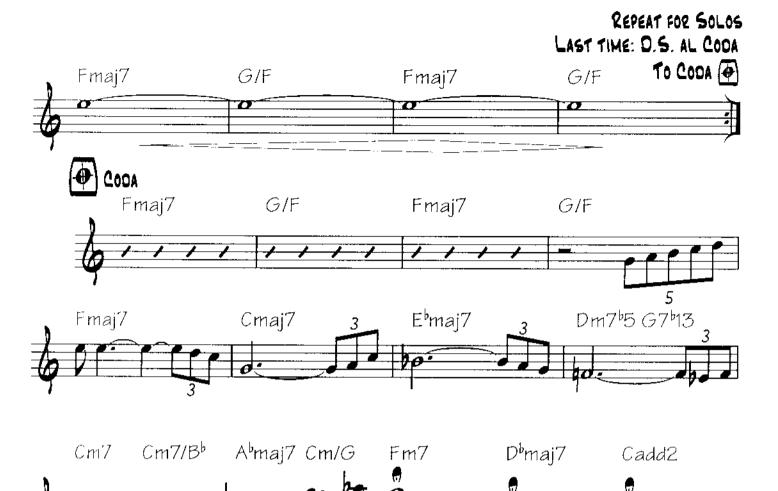




### GOODBYE

#### J = 80 (EVEN EIGHTHS)





### STRAIGHT ON RED

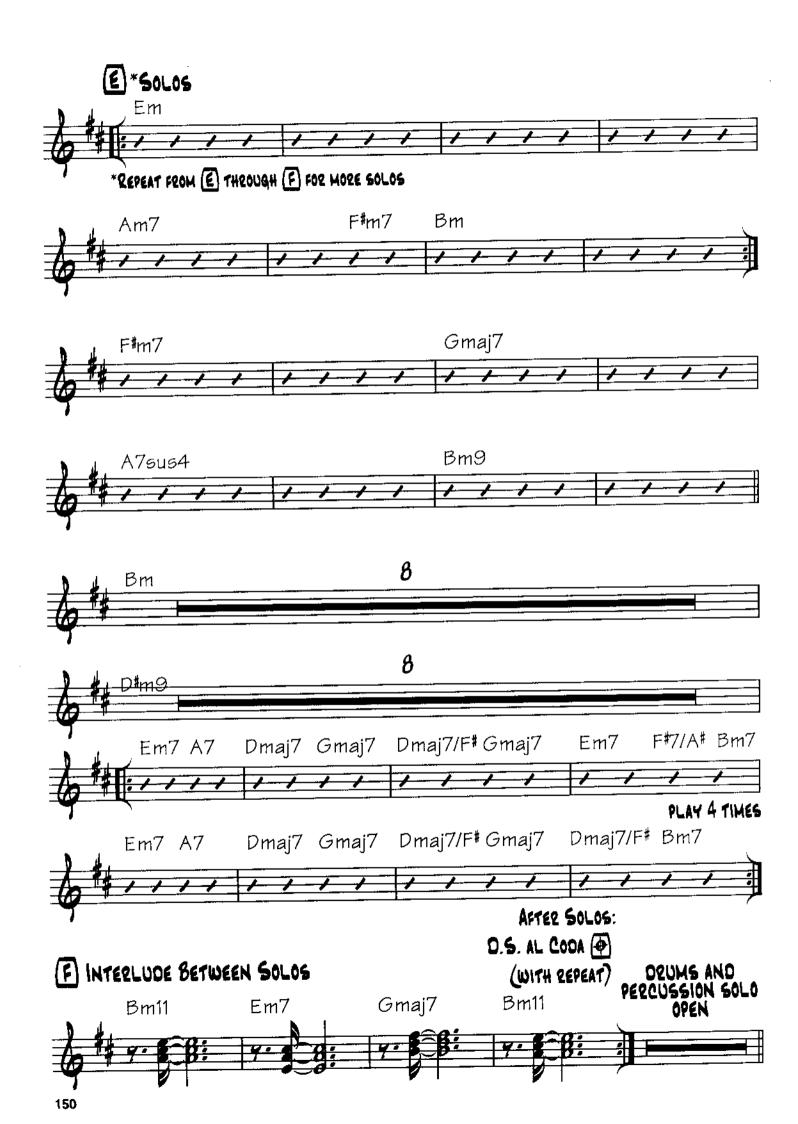
By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays

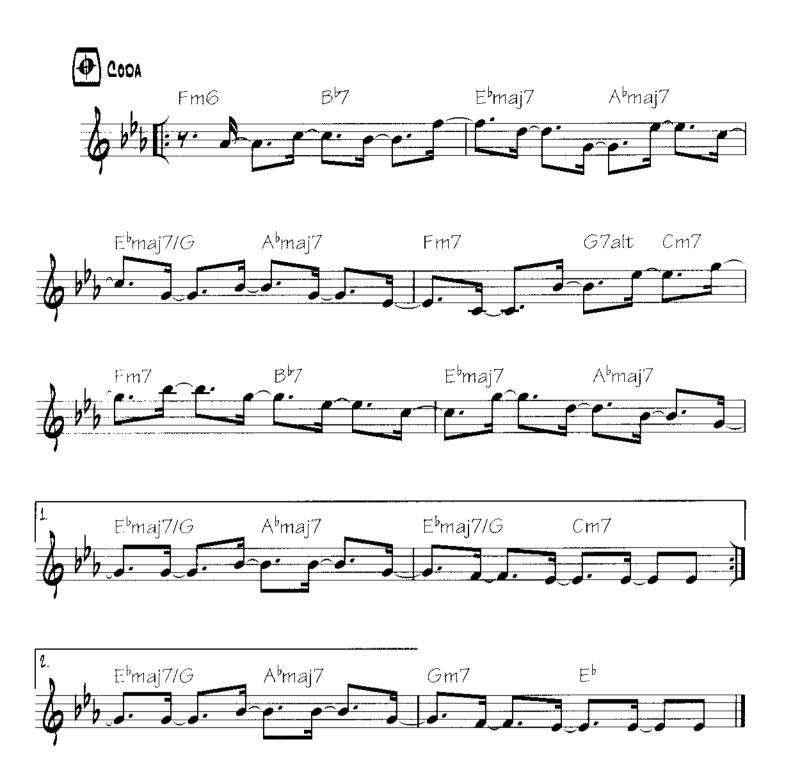
INT20

Samba feel J = 140 (Even eighths)











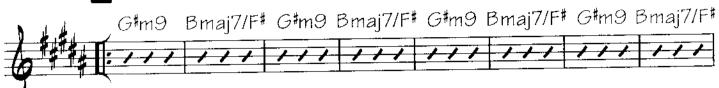
<sup>\* 1</sup>st time, Rhythm and Bass only, Melody enter 2nd time 320 time play melody 8va.

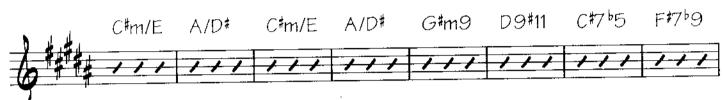


### STORY FROM A STRANGER

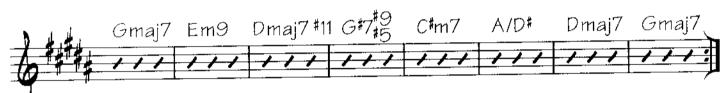


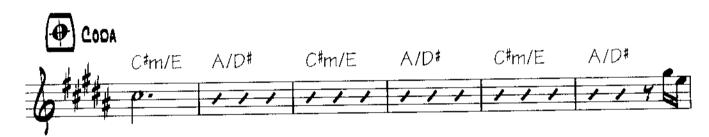






#### LAST TIME: D.C. AL CODA







# THE CALLING













#### THE RED WIND









## FIRST CIRCLE















#### THE CHIEF

By Pat Methodry

















#### HOUSE ON THE HILL





#### THE LAST TO KNOW

By Pat Metheny

INTEO
BALLAD J = 100 (EVEN EIGHTHS)





#### WASN'T ALWAYS EASY

By Pat Metheny

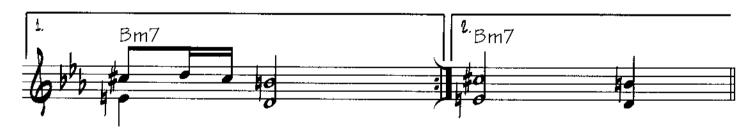
INTEO WALTE J = 63 (EVEN EIGHTHS)















### TELL IT ALL















#### PRAISE

Ty Cat Mesticery and tyle Maza











### PARALLEL REALITIES

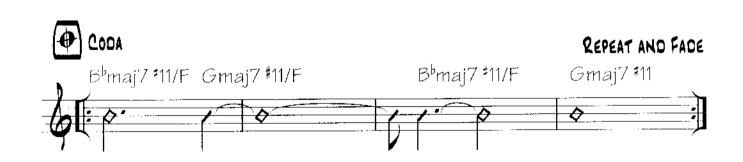
By Pat Metheny

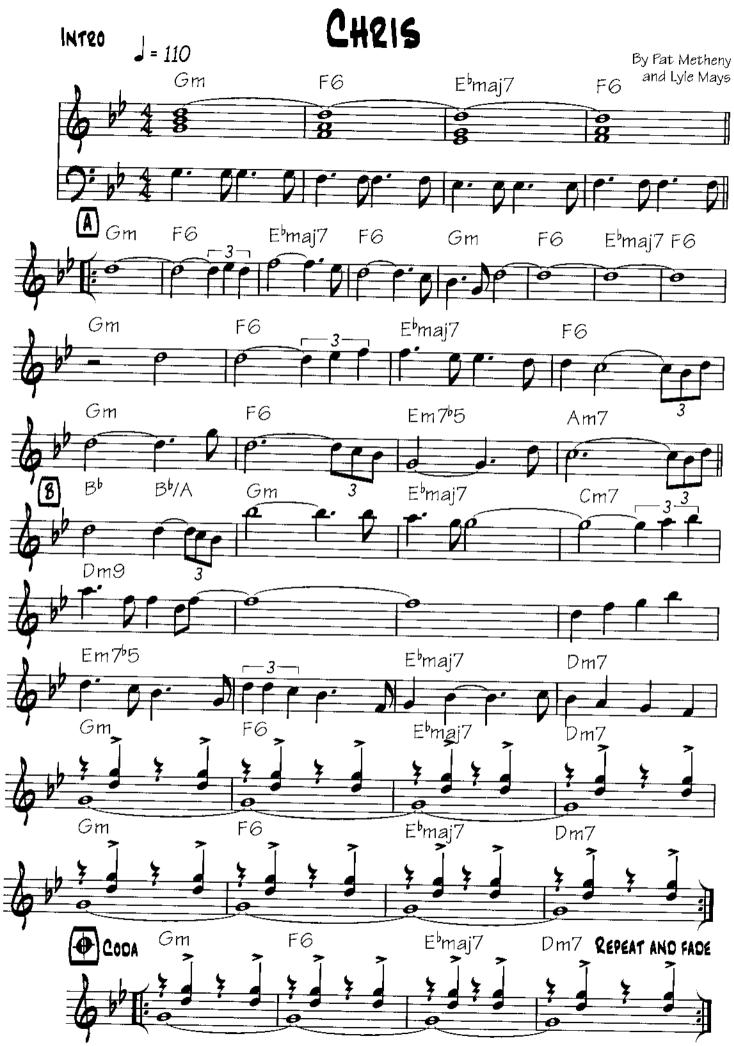










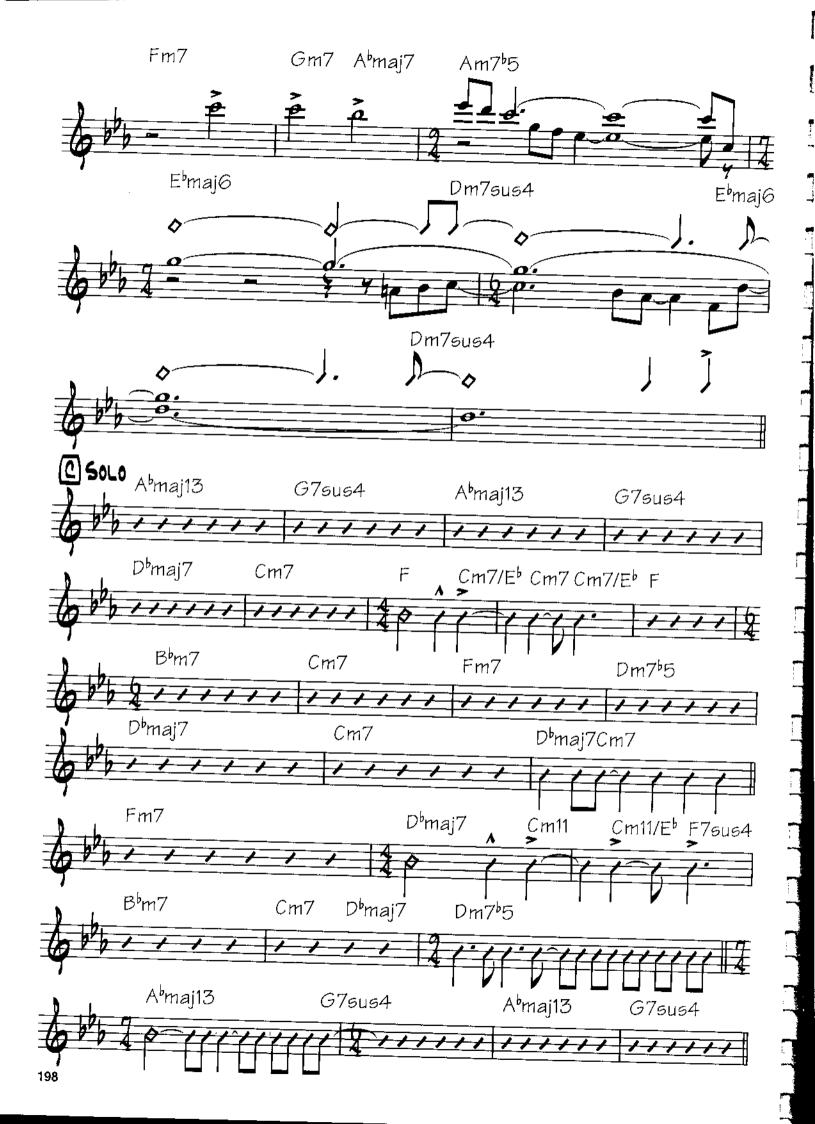


#### DAULTON LEE

INT20

By Fat Metheny and Lyle Maye







### THIS IS NOT AMERICA



















## KATHELIN GRAY

Melody by Ornette Coleman



### TRIGONOMETRY

By Pat: Metherty and Creette Coloman









INTRO SO MAY IT SECRETLY BEGIN

By Fat. Metheny.



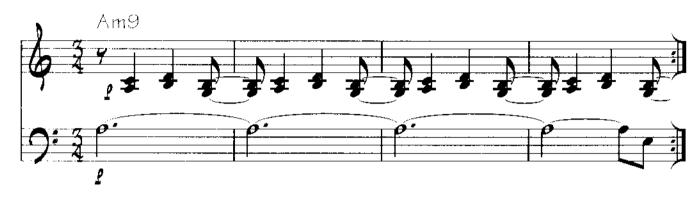


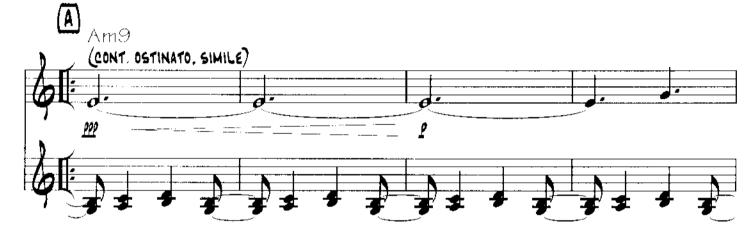


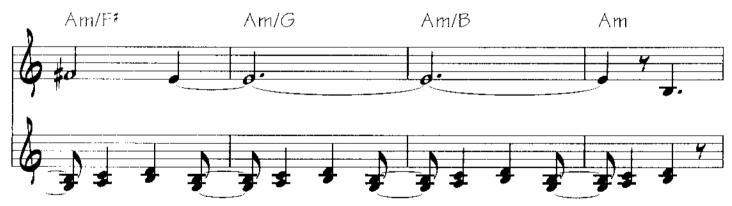
# MINUANO (SIX-EIGHT)

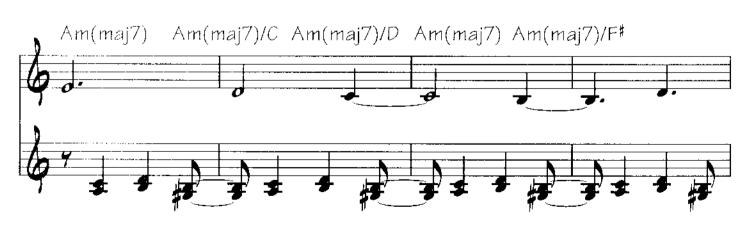
By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays

#### INTEO MYSTERIOSO J = 150 (EVEN EIGHTHS)















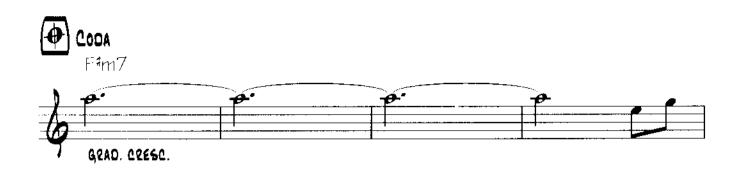


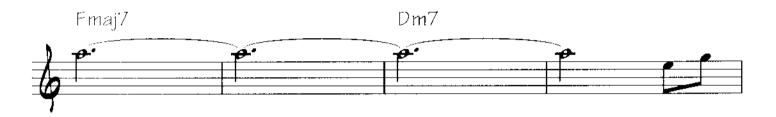


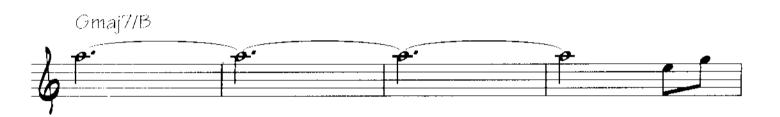


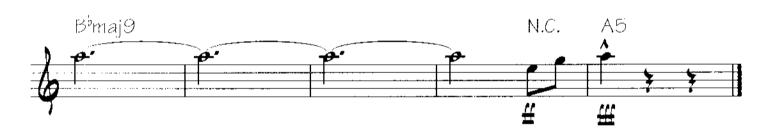




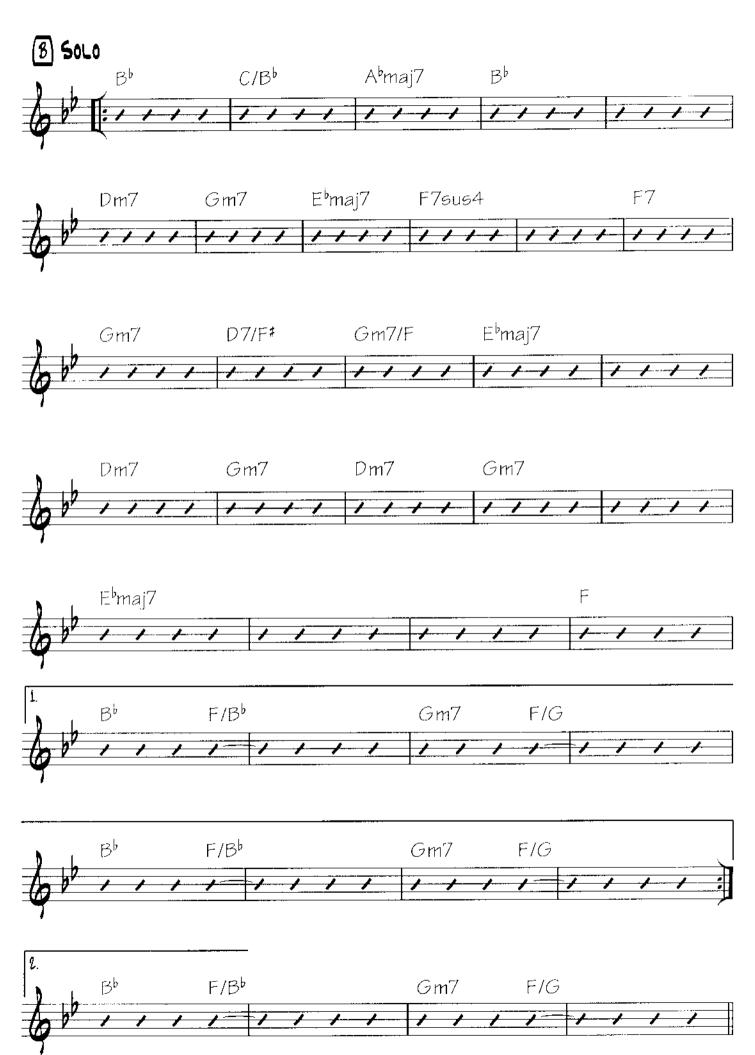














#### IN HER FAMILY

By Part Methory BALLAD RUBATO J = 90 (EVEN EIGHTHS) Dmaj7/F# Emaj9\*11 D=m7 C#m7  $C^{\sharp}m7$ F#sus2  $G^{\sharp}m9$ F#/A# Aadd9 Emaj9 Emai9 TO CODA (4) Bbmaj7#11/D Bbmaj7#11/F E/G# E В<sup>ь</sup>тај7**ғ**11 G#m9 CRESC. 8 Bbmaj7 C/Bb Cmaj7 D/C Abmaj7 F#m7 0 ርዩደፍር. Dm9 D.C. AL CODA Emaj7#11 G#m9 C#m9 Am11 (NO REPEAT) CODA В<sup>ь</sup>тај7**\***11 Bbmaj7#11/F E-\_ Ε E 0

> in a pyrajak AMOO Bas Met ir Masas Koops All Bagton (Keberyer) i basist by chebrooke

92AD. 211.

### THIED WIND

By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays

#### INTEO

FAST J = 300 (EVEN EIGHTHS)













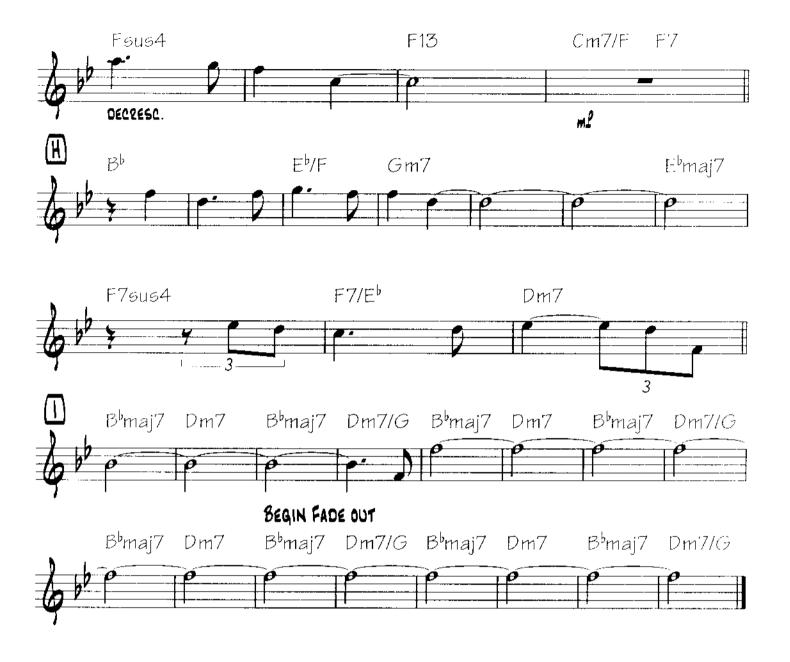


#### DREAM OF THE RETURN

By Pat Methery







## LETTER FROM HOME

By Hat Metheny



# GRAMPA'S GHOST

By Pat Meticery





# MODERATELY J = 118 (EVEN EIGHTHS)







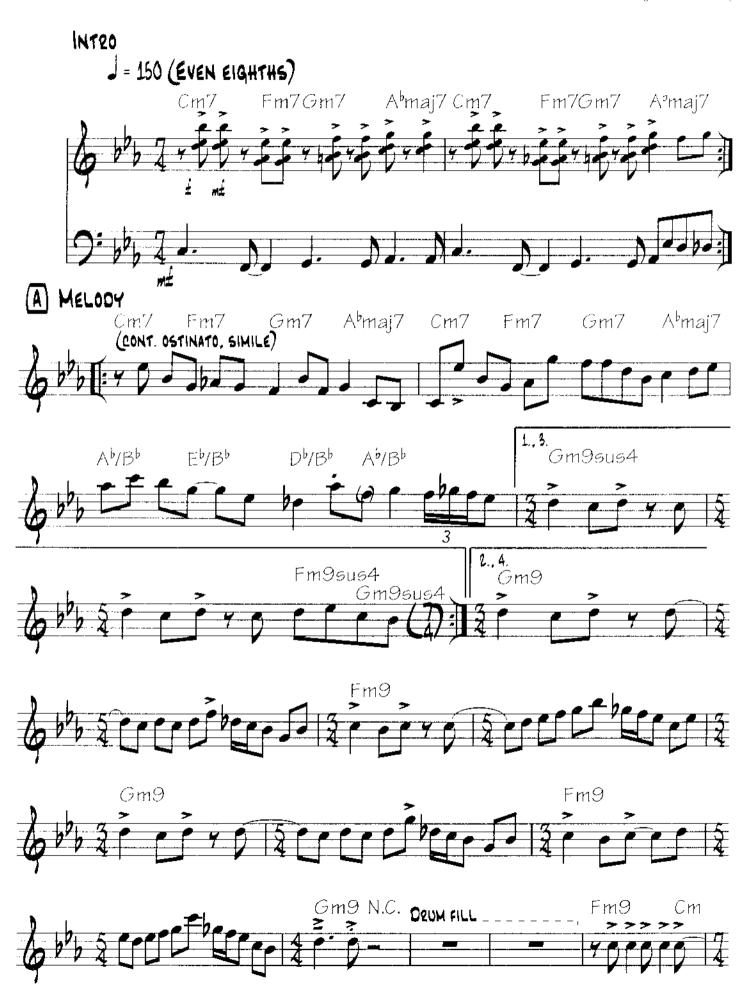
















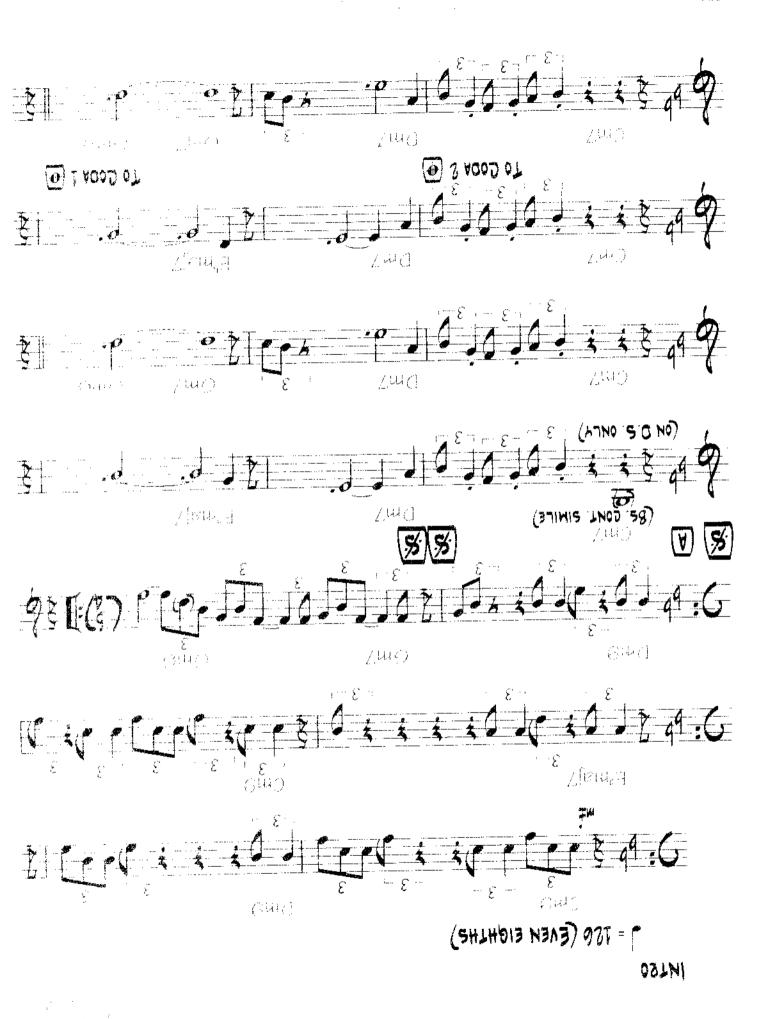




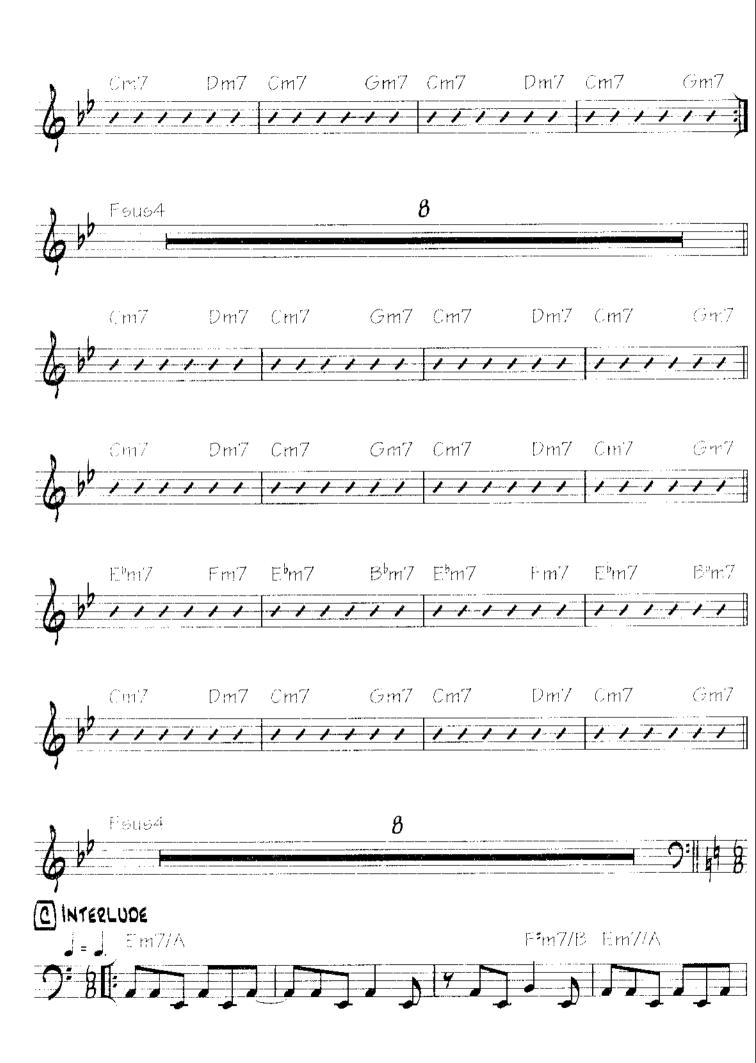
























#### BEAT 70

Ply Lat. Mathemy arts: Lylic Maga







### EVERY SUMMER NIGHT

By Patt Mothery





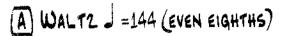
# QUESTION & ANSWER

By Fat Methony

INTEO JA22 WALT2 ] =160





















# H&H

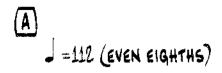


## THREE FLIGHTS UP



#### NEVER TOO FAR AWAY

By Part Metherry













#### HALF LIFE OF ABSOLUTION

Thy Data Met Livros Least Lyle Maye



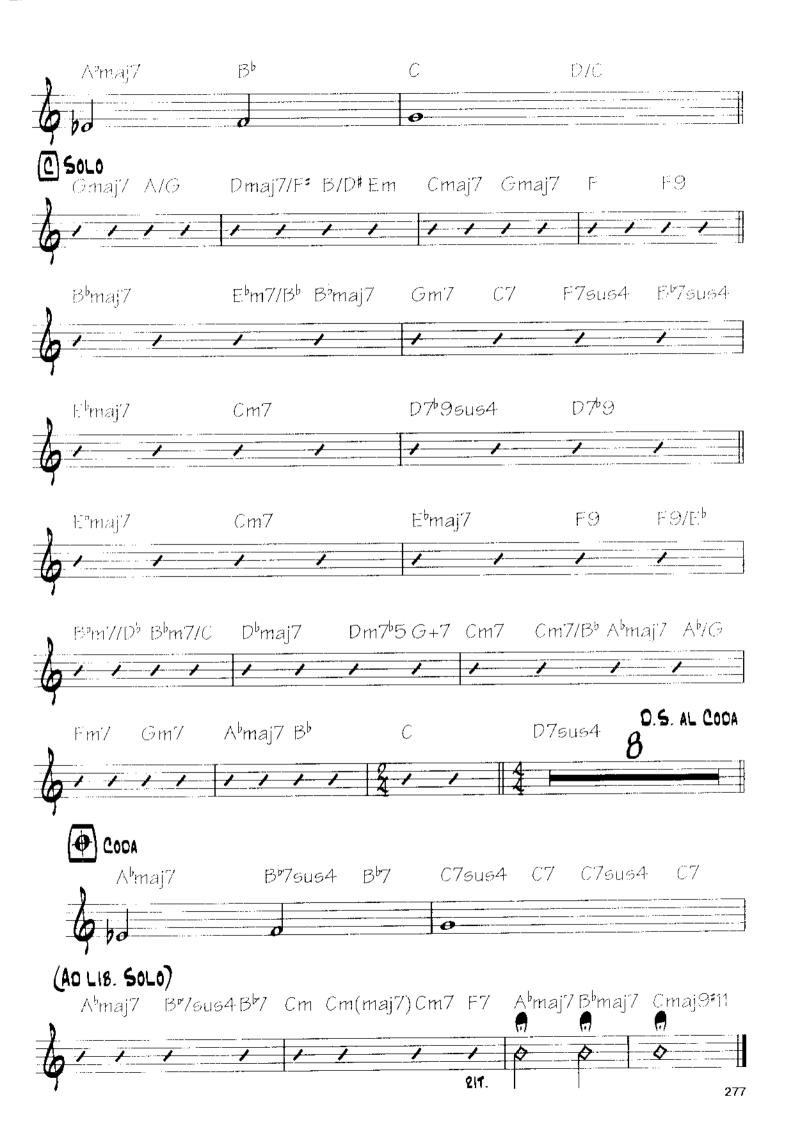






#### Inteo Ballad J = 108 (Even eighths)





#### THE ROAD TO YOU

By Pat Methery



### NINE OVER REGGAE

See Call to be up year had been been to







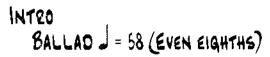
A MELODY
MODERATELY J = 133 (EVEN EIGHTHS)





#### ALWAYS AND FOREVER

By Cat Methody













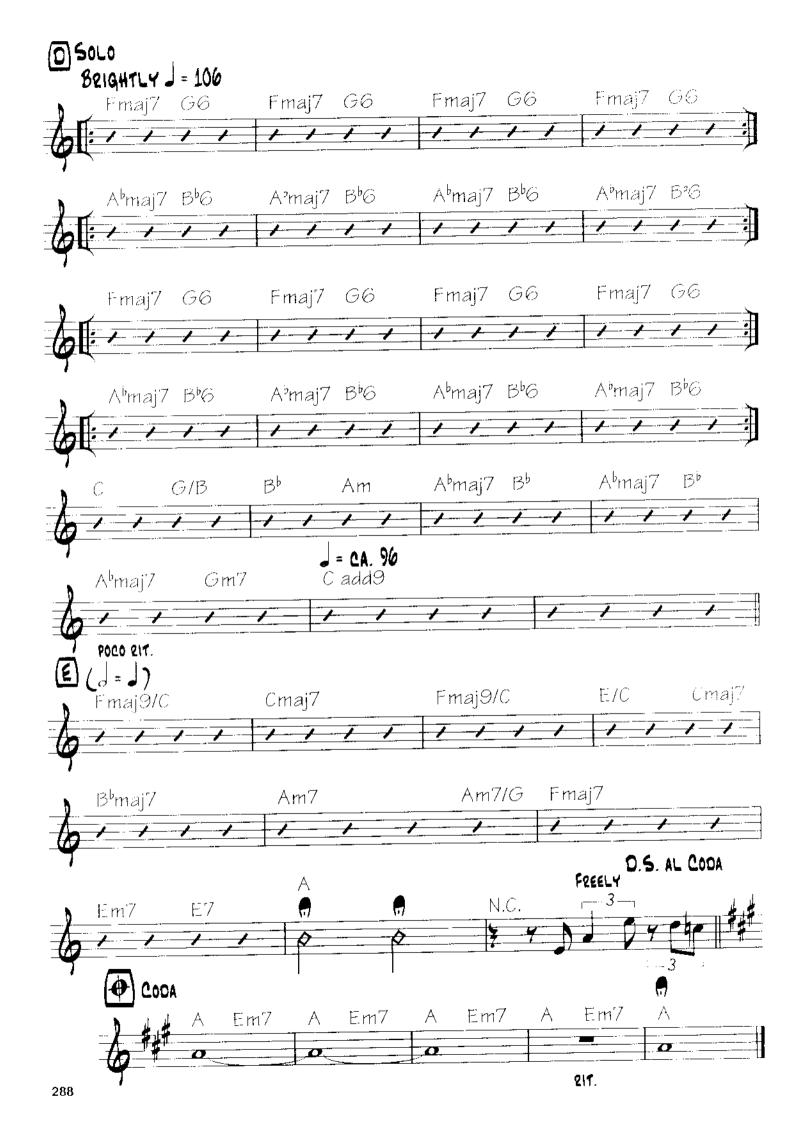












## THE TRUTH WILL ALWAYS BE

And the state of the



<sup>\*</sup> GRADUAL BUILD-UP OF VOLUME TO SOLO SECTION WHILE MAINTAINING RELATIVE DYNAMICS IN RHYTHM SECTION

<sup>\*\*</sup>Marching snare drum and held chords enter on repeat.

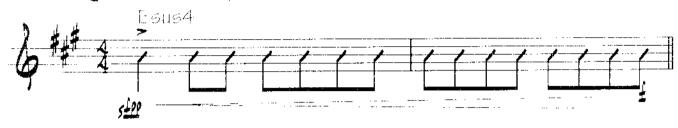




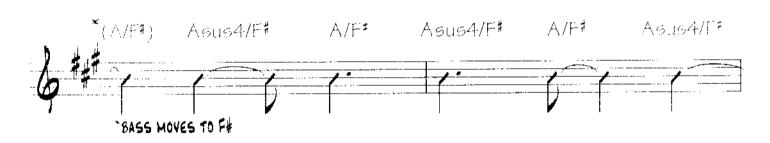


MODERATELY 1 = 120 (EVEN EIGHTHS)

(DOUBLE-TIME FEEL)



















## CATHEDRAL IN A SUITCASE

By Pat. Methery







## AS A FLOWER BLOSSOMS

Fr. Cats Medically, A MELODY = 152 (EVEN EIGHTHS) Cm9 Em7 INTERLUDE D<sup>b</sup>maj9(add6) Dm9 D.C. AL CODA Almaj9 Gm7(add4) Cm9 CODA

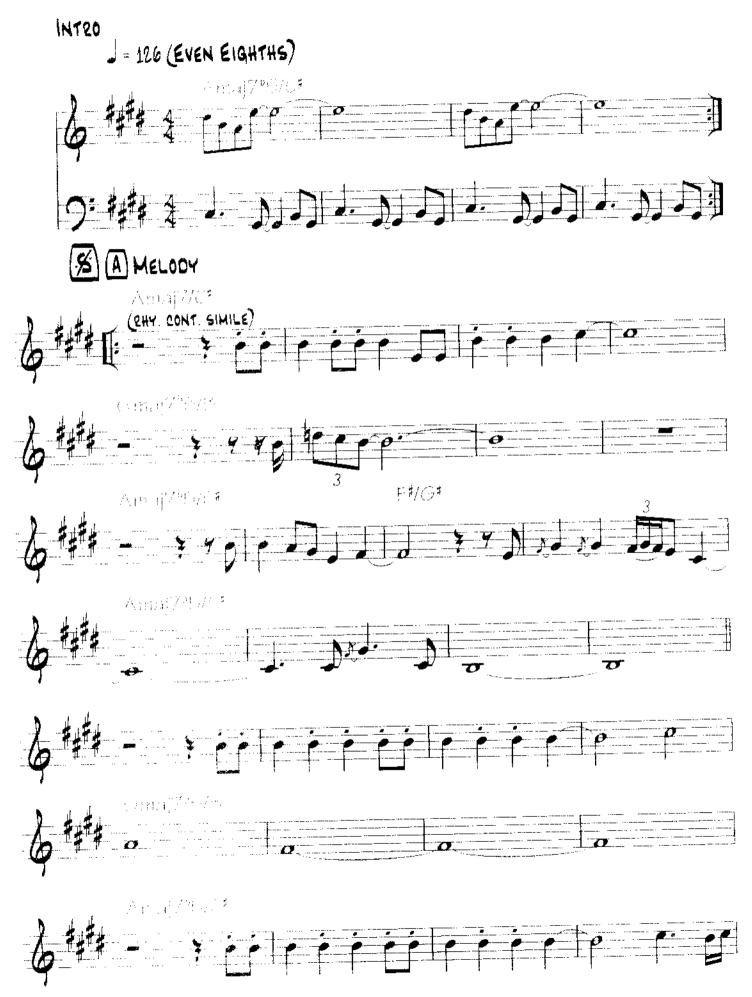
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299

# THE LONGEST SUMMER









INTRO J = 152 (EVEN EIGHTHS)

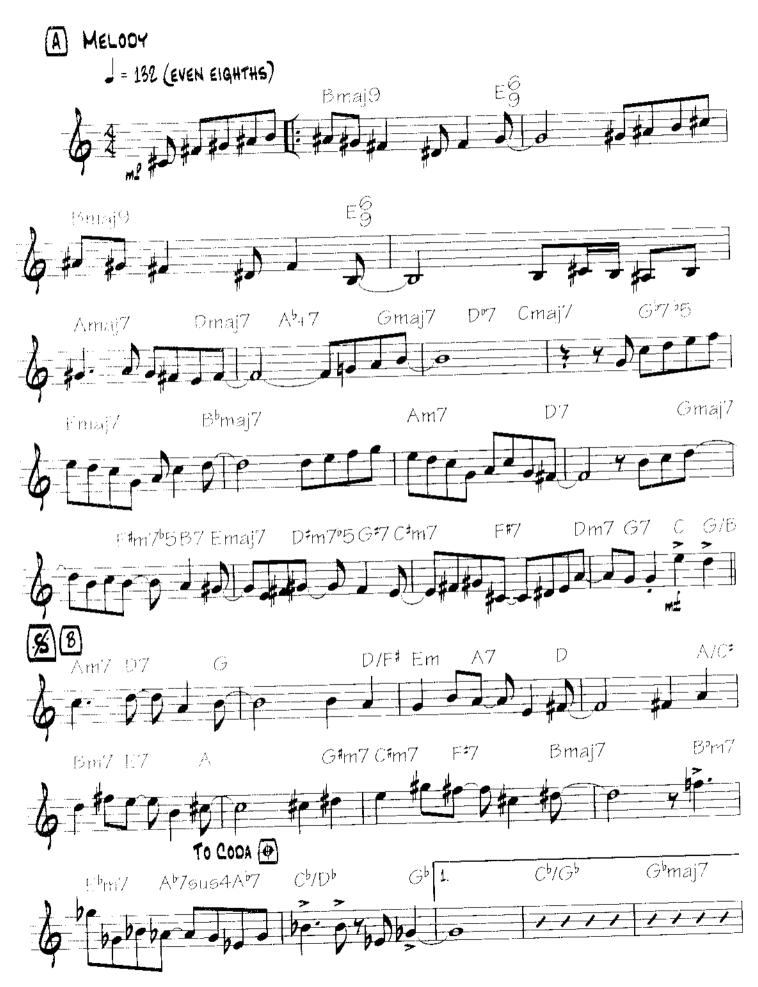








# SUNLIGHT







## TELL HER YOU SAW ME

But a State only



#### TAKE ANOTHER LOOK

By Bas Misthrey





NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN



#### WE HAD A SISTER

ALCOHOLDS A BALLAO J = 54 Dmaj7<sup>5</sup>5/F# Gmaj7**\***11 Bmaj7#5/Eb Bbma[745/A Am7 Gmaj7#11<sub>3</sub> C\*m7 F#m7 Gmal7 A7 Fim7 Em7 8 Bm7 Gmaj7 Em9 F#7 G/BDIA 04m715 F#maj7 Gm7 C7 G#m7 C#7 Fmaj7 F#m7B7 Emaj7 Dmaj7<sup>b</sup>5/F# Bmaj7#5/Eb Cma[7\*11/E LAST TIME: D.C. AL CODA C#7#5 TO CODA (4) G#m7\5 G765 F#749 F#m79u94 CODA Gmaj9 F#m75u54

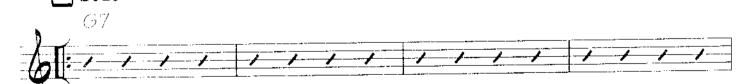
# DOUBLE GUATEMALA

INT20

by Pat Mathery













#### WHITTLIN'

By Pat Methery





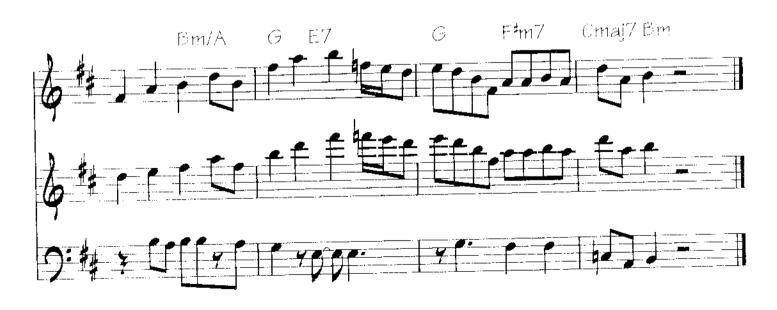




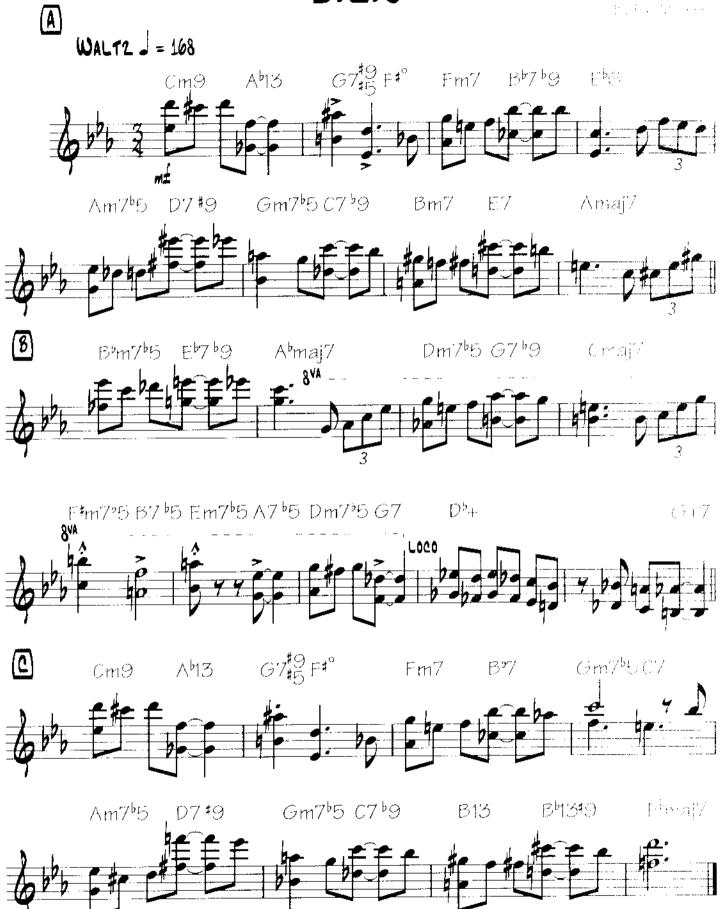






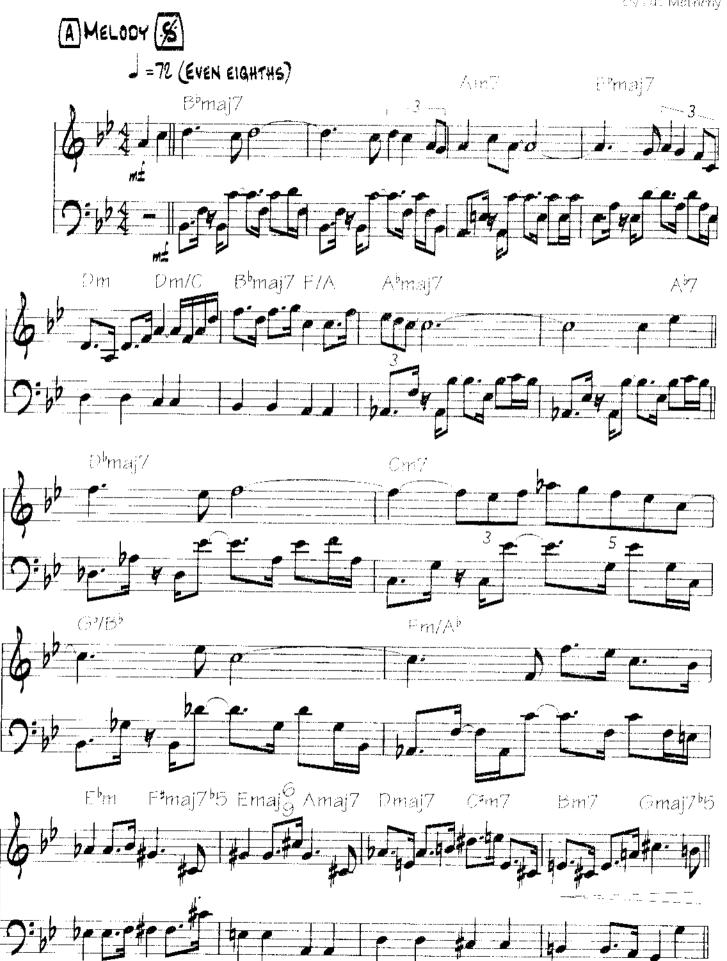






### SAY THE BROTHER'S NAME

By Pat Metheny





### HERE TO STAY

by Sat Methers, add Lylo May







#### AND THEN I KNEW

By Dar Melaser, methode Mage



#### J = 113 (EVEN EIGHTHS)





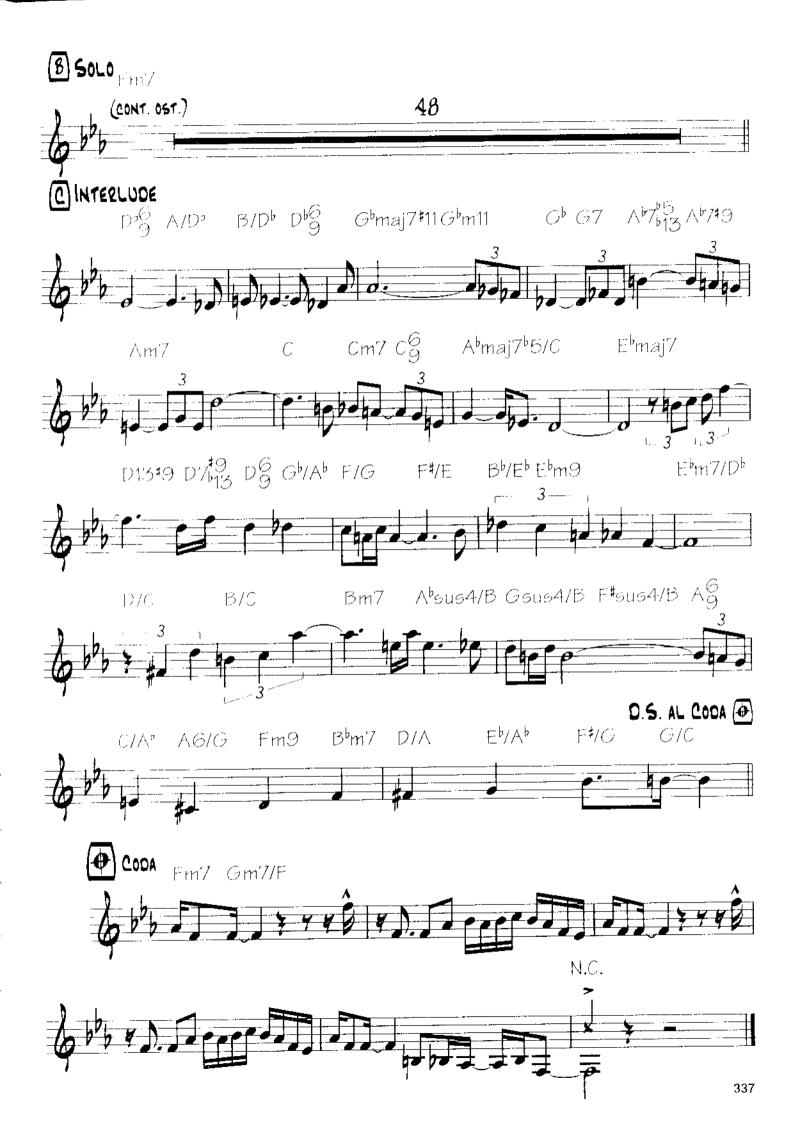






## THE GIRLS NEXT DOOR

Pytha Male by and Lyr Mays INTEO FUNK J = 84 (EVEN EIGHTHS) (2NO TIME) Ehm9 Fm7 TO CODA (# Fm7 Om7/F



Something to Remind You Ply Part Met Fers and Che May: FUNK-JAZZ BALLAD J = 60 (EVEN EIGHTHS) Dm11 Dm11 B MELODY Gm7 Bbmaj7/F Em7°5 F/EM BMD Em9 BME  $A^{b7}$ Em9 Cm7 Fauc4 F#7 Cm9 Gm7 Elm9 Om7 B³maj7/F Em715 F/Eb B<sup>3</sup>/D Ehm9 Cm9 A27 13<sup>5</sup>/F E<sup>b</sup>/F F/Eb Gm7Cm7 3 Bb7 Fm<u>9</u> E<sup>b</sup>mai7 Dm7 Gm7E<sup>b</sup>m7 Λ<sup>b</sup>75μ64 Dbmaj7 *G*<sup>6</sup>7sus4 Cbmaj7 F#m7 Bm7 Dmaj7  $C^{\sharp}m7$ Bm7 Em7 Am7 Doub4 Cmaj7 Deus4 Em7 Cmaj7 Gmaj7 Bm7Em7 Am7 Bm7













#### REPEAT AND FADE



# TO THE END OF THE WORLD

INTEG Sy Pat Mothery and Lyle Maye MODERATELY . = 96 \*(EVEN EIGHTHS) (m7 (2NO TIME)

\*Drums w/16th note shuffle feel



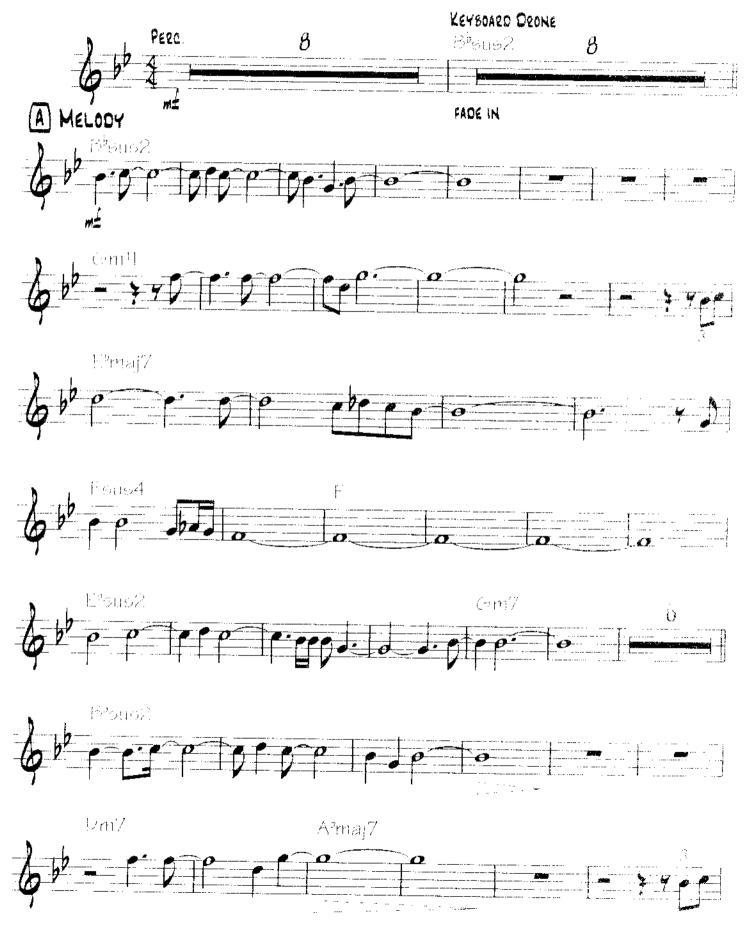




#### WE LIVE HERE

INTRO

J = 134 (Even eighths)





#### RED SKY

By Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays







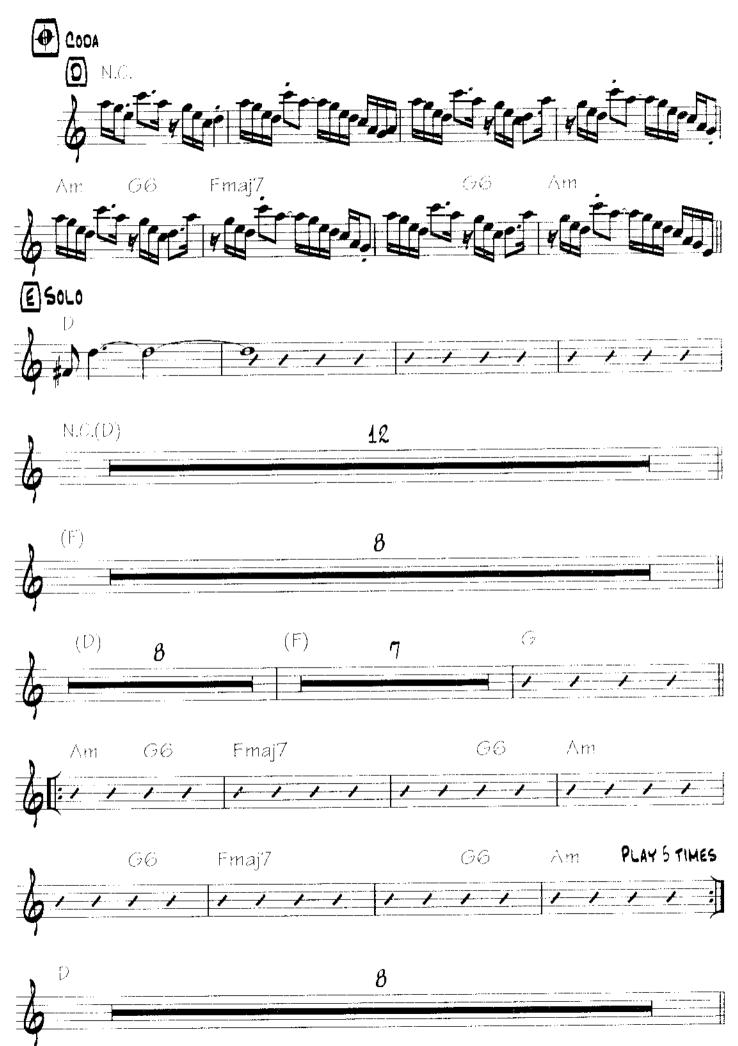




## Stranger in Town

By Fat Visions







QUARTET (INTRODUCTION)



#### WHEN WE WERE FREE

Psy full Methony



















## SOMETIMES I SEE

经资本 医内状的 化丁



#### SEVEN DAYS

By San Maderny

(A) MELODY
BALLAD J = 44 (EVEN EIGHTHS)





# LANGUAGE OF TIME

Py Call Materily manage Mary





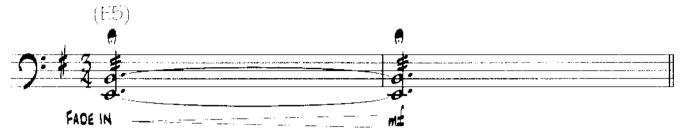






#### INTRO

FREELY J = CA. 92 (EVEN EIGHTHS)



#### MELODY

(CONT. E DRONE)









RUBATO J = 60 (EVEN EIGHTHS)



#### TEARS OF RAIN

Ex-Cut. Matthers.



## ON THE NIGHT YOU WERE BORN



#### FOR A THOUSAND YEARS

By Fig Notice y

INTRO WALT2 J = 114



### PASSAGGIO PER IL PARADISO (MAIN THEME)

By Kit Mathery





# DON'T FORGET (RENATO'S THEME)

INTEO

SLOW BALLAD

By Pat Methery





By Pat Methery

FREELY J = CA. 56 (EVEN EIGHTHS)



### THE HEAT OF THE DAY

ffy Int Method. Tabli Lylo Mayo



















#### FOLLOW ME

By Date Motherly Language Mays

INT20

J = 110 (EVEN EIGHTHS)







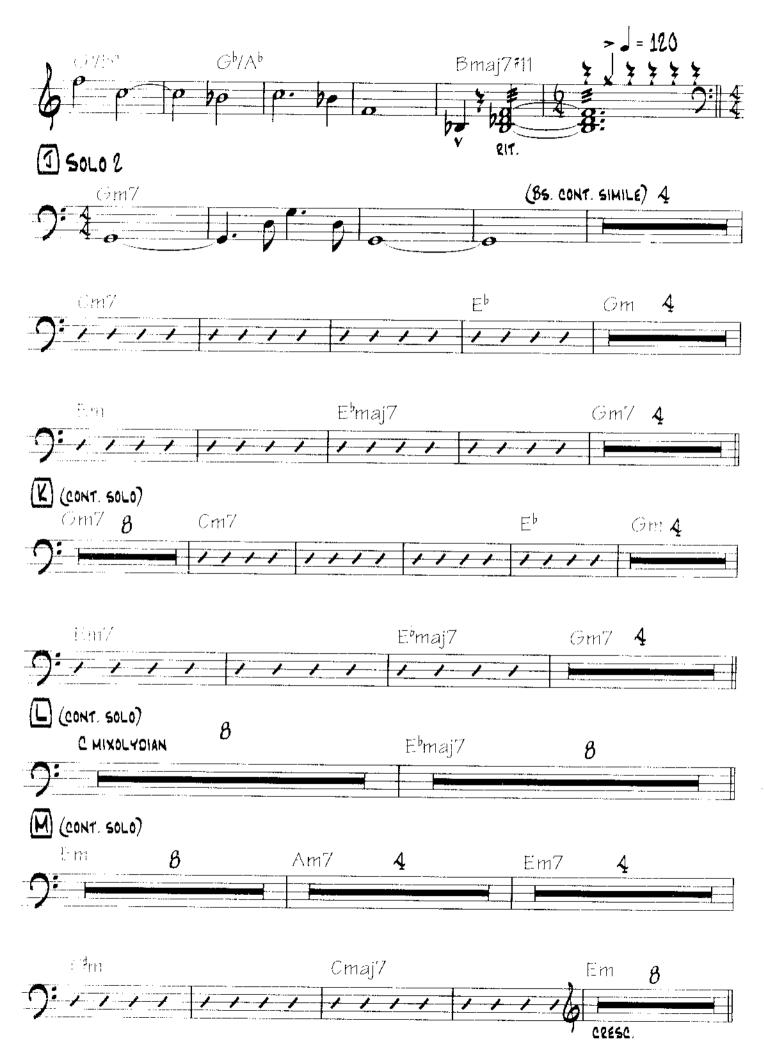
### IMAGINARY DAY

engage telepada Tanah yang telepada











# THE AWAKENING

thy that the the div annually (XIII)

INTED

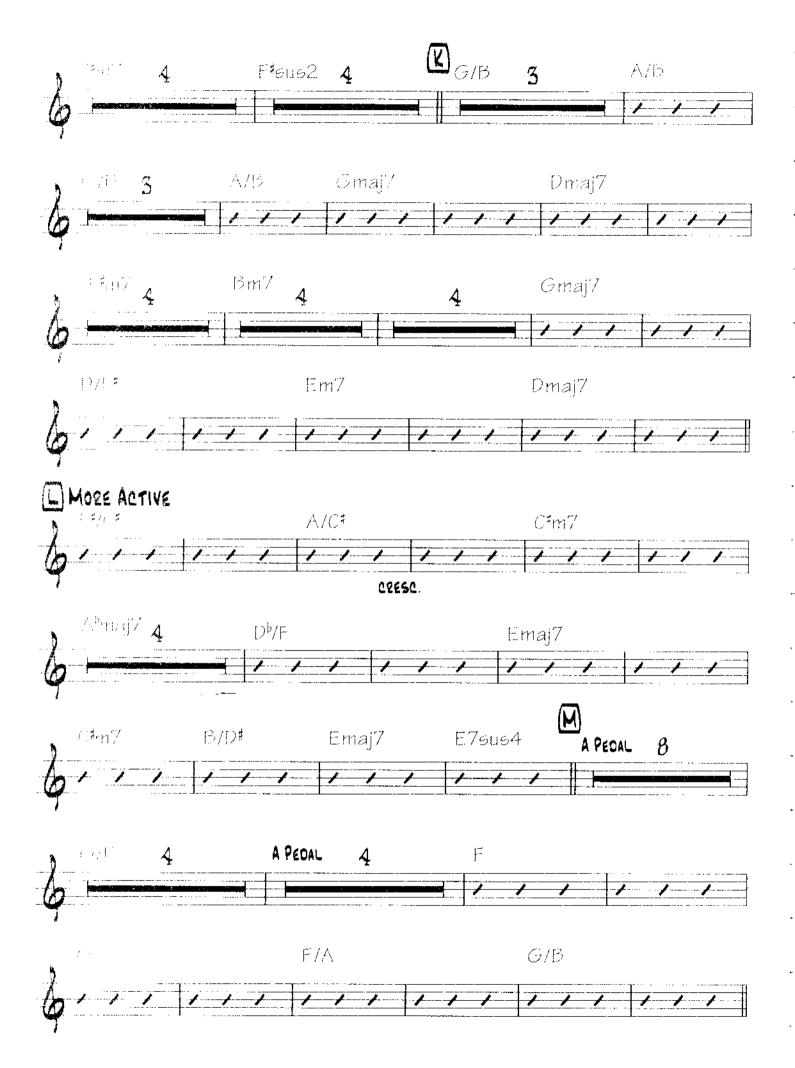
J = 122 (TRIPLET FEEL)

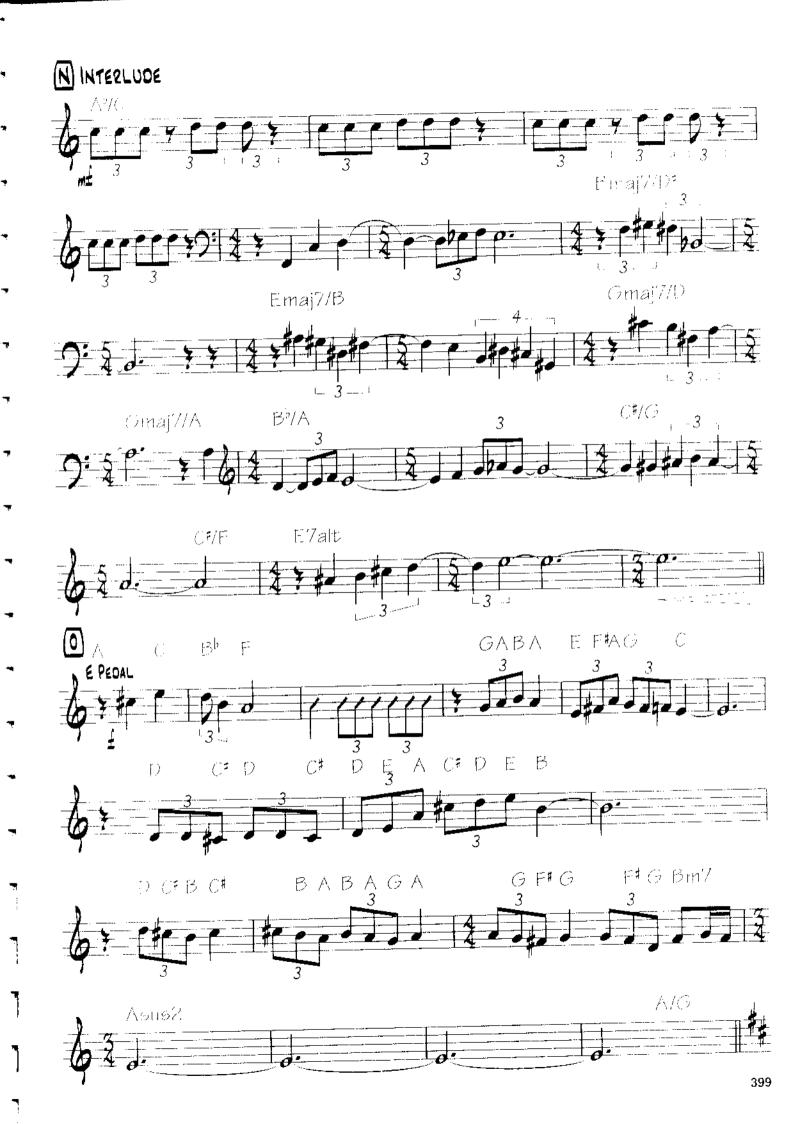














## THE ROOTS OF COINCIDENCE

By Par Metheny and Lyle Maye







#### Across the Sky

Phy Pat Mechany and INF Mays:



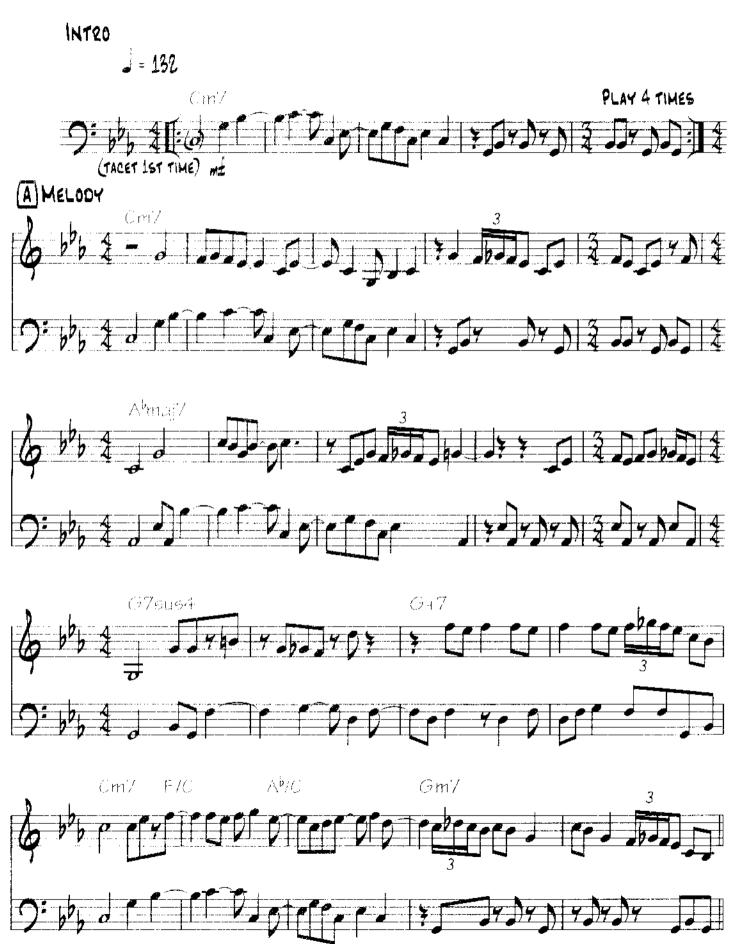


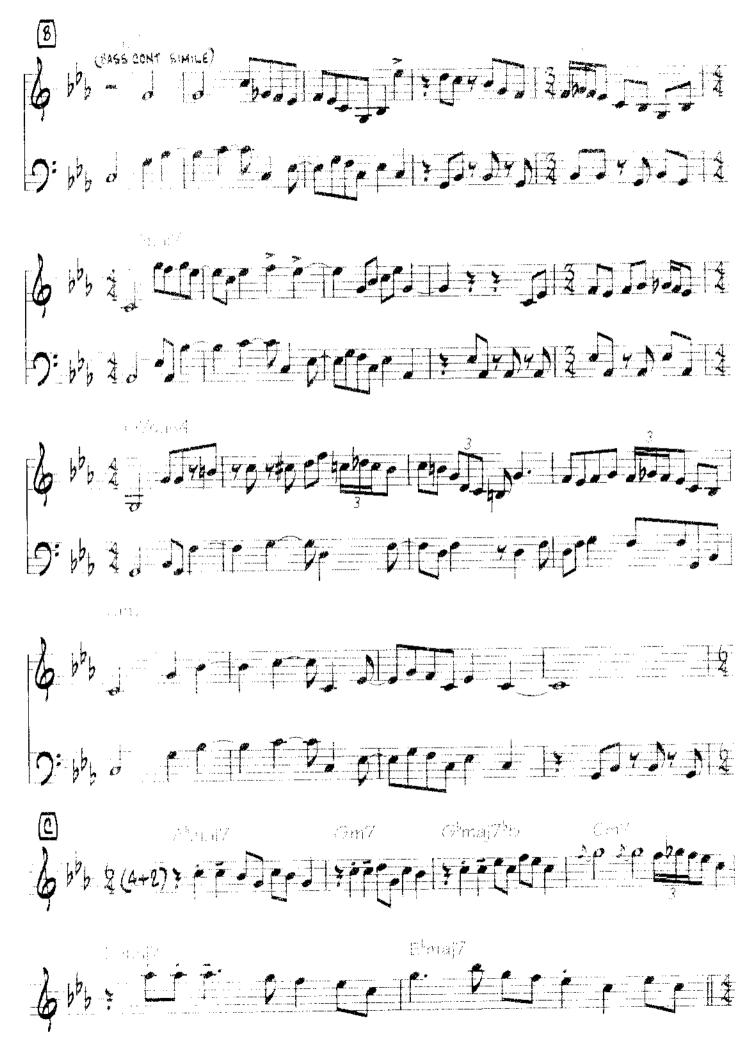
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# A STORY WITHIN A STORY

By Pat Methods and Lyn Mass

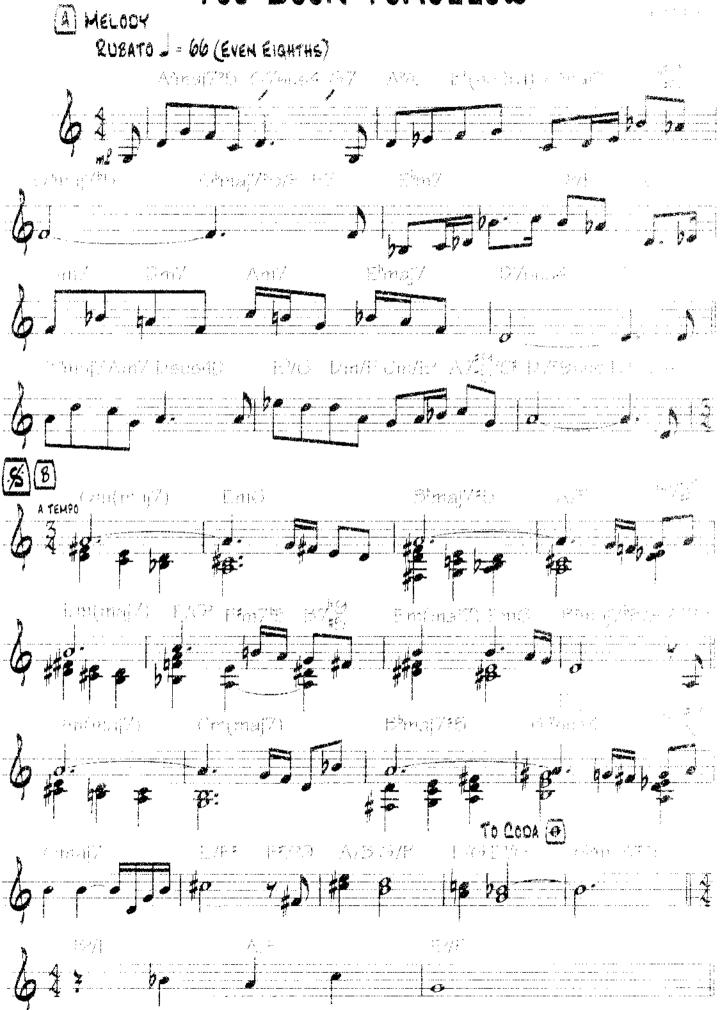




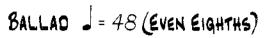




### TOO SOON TOMORROW









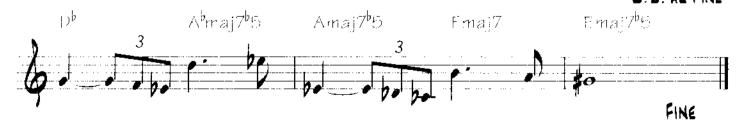








D.S. AL FINE





# A MAP OF THE WORLD

By Pat Metheny



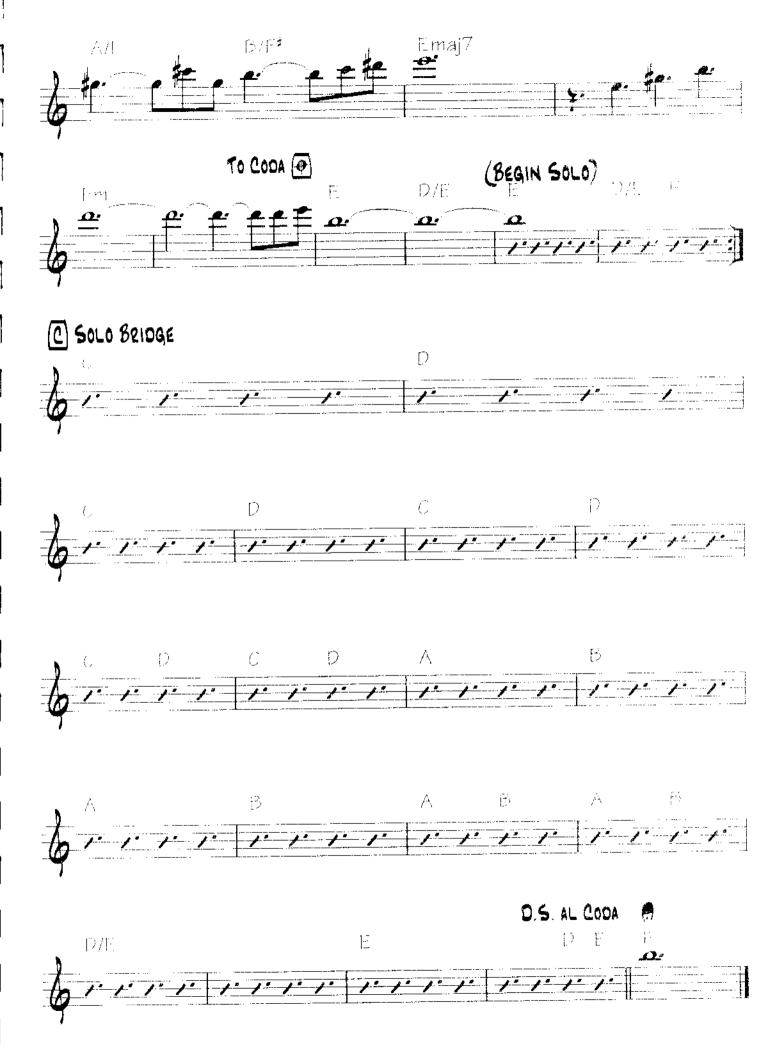


#### FAMILY









INT20











#### RESOLUTION

To Late Marine











### TIMELINE (FOR ELVIN)

His Part Metabors

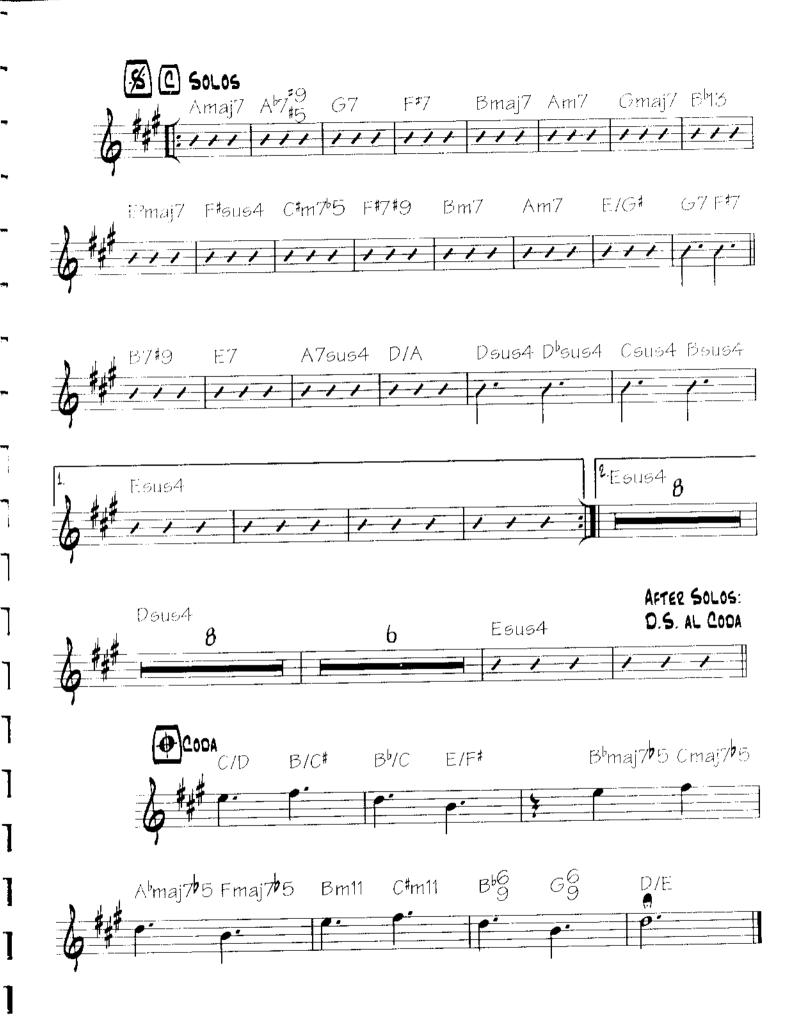


# WHAT DO YOU WANT?



### THE SUN IN MONTREAL





## JUST LIKE THE DAY

By Pat Metheny

intro J = 90 (even eighths)



















# (GO) GET IT



# ADDITIONAL LYRICS

# Mas Alla Words by Pedro Aznar

(ENGLISH)

It's like clouds with sky, starts its flight the afternoon
There are no shadows, it isn't real; time has vanished
There are no songs to be heard...
The sun burns up its light
It's a town of ghosts
So much of this afternoon will drown, will erase from my memories the morning Beyond

It's the deepest blue, followed my steps, the moon What streets will see me walk away my loneliness? I don't know if I know how to arrive but I know how to leave, Pain doesn't veil the direction How to talk to you without speaking, how to make the entire sea stay calm From the sea?

Wind of an eternal summer tangling the white thread Blind-glow of January knitting back the shroud I come to be the salt, the stones to be born of waves and algae I come to sunrise!

To wake up the day Slowly, slow...

#### (SPANISH)

Es como nubes sin cielo, remonta el voela la tarde
No hay somoras no es real el tiempo se esfumó
No hay cantos que escuchar...
Quema el sol su luz
Es un pueblo de fantasmas
Tanta siesta ahogará,
borrará de mis recuerdos la mañana
Mas alla

Es el azul más profundo, siguió mis pasos, la luna Qué calles me verán anadar mi soledad? No sé si sé llegar pero sé partir, el dolor no vela el rumbo Cómo hablarte sin hablar, cómo hacer que el mar entero quede en calma Desde el mar?

Viento de un verano eterno enredando el hilo blance Ciego resplandor de Enero tejieñdo de nuevo el manto Vengo a ser la sal, las piedras, a nacer de oleaje y algas Vengo a amanecer! a desperatar el dia Lento, lento...

# Dream of the Return Words by Pedro Aznar

#### (ENGLISH)

I tossed a poem to the sea that took with it my questions and my voice Like a slow ship it vanished in the foam

I asked it not to turn back without having seen the open sea and in dreams telling me of its visions

Even if it never returned I would know if it arrived

Travel the whole life on the blue calm or foundering in storms Little matters the way if some port awaits

I waited so long for the message that I forgot returning to the sea and thought the poem lost forever I cried my rancor to the heavens till I found it, finally, written in the sand like a prayer

The sea beat in my veins and set my heart free

#### (SPANISH)

Al mar eché un poema que llevó con el mis preguntas y mi voz como un lento barco se perdió en la espuma

Le pedi que no diera la vuelta sin haber visto el altamar y en suen ós hablar conmigo de lo que vio

Aun si no volviera Yo sabrina si Ilego

Viajar la vida entera por la calma azul o en tormentas zozobrar Poco importa el modo si algun puerto espera

Aguarde tanto tiempo el mensaje que olvide voler al mar y asi yo perdi aquel poema Grite a los cielos todo mi rencor lo halle por fin pero escrito en la arena como una oracion

El mar golpeo en mis venas y libro mi corazon



# By Pat Metheny

his book is the result of thirteen years of hard work—and finishing it has been one of the major projects of the past few years for me. The challenge was to come up with a way of presenting this music that would be playable by the largest group of interested musicians. Early on, it was decided that a "fake book" approach would be the most efficient way to communicate the essential musical information that would allow these quite varied pieces to be played effectively. One of the real issues for me was to work with the notation so the melodies would be laid out in a kind of generic form-that is, without too much literal inflection, so that hopefully each new performer of a piece will have the basic information that they need to render the melody and the basic chord changes accurately without there being too many hard-to-read rhythms and stylistically prejudiced indications of how the song should go, but enough that you get the often very specific indications of what makes the music work and be effective for what it is.

For that reason, most of this music is in fact based on the actual lead sheets that we used to record or learn these songs when they were written. An important goal for me was that this collection would be accurate enough to function as a literal "book" of the music that I have played and been involved in presenting over the years, accurate enough that I will be able to use it myself for those situations when a new musician comes into the band and we need to give him/her a lead sheet of a tune to learn.

While this book does appear with the title "The Complete Collection," of course there are omissions. Among the things not in this book are the hundred or so tunes that I have written over the years that have never been recorded. Some other pieces were left out because they seemed to be so thoroughly defined by their largely improvised performances that they might more appropriately be included in a transcription book, something that will likely occur in the future. Then there are some of the pieces that are credited as Metheny/Mays tunes that are so overwhelmingly Tyle's tunes that I feel that they will be more appropriately placed in what is the sure eventuality of a songbook of Tyle's music in the future as well. And then there are some songs that were simply forgotten or overlooked until it was too late—and it was unthinkable to postpone the book any longer.

In many cases, I worked hard with the editors to condense the pieces to their shortest possible lengths by removing modulations, reducing orchestration details, and making every effort to pare the pieces down to their essentials, in order to keep this book as manageable as possible. But in some cases, there was nothing to do but to write out seemingly everything. This music is offered here to all musicians and is capable of being played by a wide variety of instrumentations. Please play it, change it, arrange it, and find things of your own in it—nothing will make me happier than to hear future versions of these tunes through the prism of other people's musical voices and instincts. Following is a tune-by-tune account of each piece, with a few casual notes about each tune's history and origin. Enjoy the music.

—Pat Metheny, January 2000

#### APRIL IOY (Methenv)

Written in 1972 for the Kansas City Jazz Festival. One of the first tunes I ever tried to write. Like many of these early tunes, I was really just trying to come up with a vehicle to improvise on that set up a way of playing harmonically and rhythmically that was like the way I imagined myself trying to sound at some point in the future. This later became the first composition of mine ever recorded on a major label—by vibist David Friedman on his album Winter Love, April Joy, featuring flute player Hubert Laws. Recorded on the albums Pat Metheny Group and Winter Love, April Joy by David Friedman. (Page 12)

#### SEA SONG (Metheny)

Written in 1972 in Miami, the first day Larrived there from Kansas City—also the first day Lever saw the ocean; which is kind of what inspired it. First performed by the band Kaleidoscope, a forward-thinking soxtet around Miami from which I learned a lot by getting to participate in, led by pianist Dan Haerle. The tune is played rubato, and the idea was to improvise on the form while staying out of time. **Recorded on the album Watercolors**. (Page 13)

#### BRIGHT SIZE LIFE (Metheny)

Written January 1974 in Stoughton, Mass. to explore the idea of using large interval leaps, diatonic to a chord, as melodic elements. The simple harmonies involve improvising on basic triads, something I have always enjoyed doing, but which is hard to find in the standard jazz repertoire of blues forms and standards, especially at the time this piece was written. Recorded on the album Bright Size Life. (Page 15)

#### UNITY VILLAGE (Metheny)

Written in January 1974 in Stoughton, Mass, the same night, with the same idea but minor and slower. "Unity Village" is a place near my hometown in Missouri that I spent a lot of great summer days. **Recorded on the album Bright Size Life.** (Page 18)

#### UNIQUITY ROAD (Metheny)

Written 1974, Stoughton, Mass. Uniquity Road is a road in the Blue Hills area of south suburban Boston. This was written for one of the first gigs I did in Boston with one of my best friends from my year in Miami, the incredible young bassist Jaco Pastorius, and one of my all-time favorite drummers, Bob Moses, with whom I was getting to play nightly with Gary Burton. The gig was at a place called Pooh's Pub in Boston. This trio became my working band for a period of two years, during which time we developed a way of playing together that later resulted in the Bright Size Life record. This tune is a challenging one to solo on rhythmically and harmonically. Recorded on the album Bright Size Life. (Page 21)

#### MISSOURI UNCOMPROMISED (Metheny)

Written in January 1974 as above. Irying to find a way to make a 12-bar blues something different, Jaco Pastorius gave this one its title. **Recorded on the album** *Bright Size Life.* (Page 20)

# SIRABHORN (Metheny)

Written for a gig at the Zircon club in Somerville, Mass., early 1975 (Jaco on bass and Bob Moses on drums) utilizing an odd tuning on the electric 12-string that I was playing exclusively with Gary Burton's band. The tune is named for Sirabhorn Muntarbhorn from Thailand. **Recorded on the album** *Bright Size Life.* (Page 19)

# MIDWESTERN NIGHTS DREAM (Metheny)

Written 1974, looking for more ways to utilize the unique color of the odd tunings I was exploring with the 12-string. Ended up being playable in conventional tuning, too, as recorded later by Gary Burton. The bass melody at the end was written in Stuttgart, Germany the night before the record date (Bright Size Life) when I realized that I hadn't written a melody for Jaco to play by himself on the whole record—and he was so good at that. Recorded on the album Bright Size Life and Passengers by the Gary Burton Quartet. (Page 22)

# OMAHA CELEBRATION (Metheny)

Written in Ornaha, Nebraska on an early tour with Gary Burton, 1975. There was a great band playing in the lounge of the hotel that we were staying in. They were called Celebration. Their guitarist was fantastic, and it inspired me to go upstairs and write this tune. **Recorded on the album** *Bright Size Life.* (Page 16)

#### NACADA (Metheny)

Written in Vancouver, Canada during a Gary Burton week long engagement at a club called Oil Can Harry's. Looking for unexpected modulations in a short form ballad. Dedicated to Canadian singer Jamie Mauro. Recorded on the album Passengers by the Gary Burton Quartet. (Page 14)

#### IVY (Metheny)

Written for my brother Mike Metheny's first record date, *Blue Jay Sessions*, to feature his beautiful sound. (Lalso recommended a guitarist for him to use on this date, Bill Frisell—Lelieve it was one of his first record dates, as well). **Recorded on the album** *Blue Jay Sessions* by Mike Metheny. (*Page 24*)

#### LAKES (Metheny)

Written for a band led by Memphis pianist James Williams, a good friend of mine since 1968 when we were both just kids. His band at this time actually was a quartet with another piano player, Ted Lo. Since there were two keyboard instruments. I guess I figured they needed a lot of chords to play, hence all the changes. This tune was also played often in the first quartet that I had that used to do a lot of the same gigs around the East Coast that the Jacof/Mosces trio used to do. (Jaco had gone on to join the band Weather Report around this time.) That quartet consisted of Gil Coldstein on piano, Mike Richmond on bass, and Danny Gottlieb on drums. Recorded on the album Watercolors. (Page 26)

#### WATERCOLORS (Metheny)

Written in Cambridge, Mass., early 1976. A melody that stuck with me on a walk home late at night after a gig. The changes are the kinds of changes that I really love to play on simple, but open-ended. This was first performed on the first gig I ever played with Lyle Mays, at the Zircon, in Somerville, Mass., July 1976, right after the Bicentennial. The rest of the band was Steve Swallow on bass, and Dan Gottlieb on drums. Recorded on the album Waterculors. (Page 28)

#### OASIS (Metheny)

Written 1976, Cambridge, Mass. Conceived as a melody for Eberhard Weber to play over a whole bunch of overdubbed 15-string harp guitars—an instrument that I had bought on an earlier trip to Germany with G.B. **Recorded on the album Watercolors**. (Page 30)

# RIVER QUAY (Metheny)

Written for the first "tour" I ever got to do as a leader—two nights in Chicago at the amazinggrace club and six nights in Kansas City at a club in the "River Quay" area of town. The club was open for exactly one week—we opened it and closed it. The band was Lyle Mays, piano; Mike Richmond, bass; and Bob Moses, drums. Written Summer 1976. Recorded on the album Watercolors. (Page 31)

# THE WHOPPER (Metheny)

1976. Dedicated to Eberhard Weber. Written as a tune with a lot of rhythmic accents and an active harmonic scheme—the kinds of things that Gary Burton was especially great at soloing over. Written for G.B.'s band, which was often touring with Eberhard as a guest during this period. Recorded on the album Passengers by the Gary Burton Quartet. (Page 32)

#### IT'S FOR YOU (Metheny/Mays)

Started May 1977, Orlando, Fla. The first piece that Lyle and I worked on together. It was finished later in 1979, Watertown, Mass. just before it was recorded on Wichita. At the time, we were both touring as members of the backup band for singer Marlena Shaw—I had just left Gary Burton's band and was anxious to get going with my own band. Lyle had agreed to move to Boston and join, but he was committed to finishing this tour with Marlena, they suddenly needed a guitar player, so I signed on for a month or so of gigs. During that first writing session, the main body of the tune was written—the middle counterpoint section was not written until a few years later. Recorded on the album As Falls Wichita, So Falls Wichita Falls and another version by Akiko Yano. (Page 36)

# PHASE DANCE (Metheny/Mays)

Originally written in 1976 for a gig with my brother Mike at a club called Ryle's in Cambridge, Mass. We also played it for the last year I was with the Gary Burton Quartet. It was originally written when I started experimenting with a "Nashville tuning" of a conventional guitar and tried to apply that sound to a jazz setting. When the PMG started, this was one of the first tunes that we had that we could actually play live that would clearly define what we were looking for. Lyle and I wrote the intro and the ending in June of 1977, just before the first long tour. Recorded on the album Pat Metheny Group and the album Travels. (Page 42)

#### JACO (Metheny)

Written for the same gig in '76 with Mike at Ryle's. The reason it is called "Jaco" is because I realized after the fact that the main melodic lick of the tune is pretty much like the horn line on Jaco's tune "Come On, Come Over"—and rather than pretend that it wasn't, I just dedicated the tune to him. The intro and outro of the tune was actually written for another piece written in 1971 while still in high school that I yle later spruced up harmonically over the course of playing it on our live gigs during the group's first fouring year. Recorded on the album Pat Metheny Group and also versions by the Turtle Island String Quartet and the singing group Perri. (Page 47)

# SAN LORENZO (Metheny/Mays)

Written June '77. As with the tune "Icefire" (an improvised solo piece on the Watercolors record), this piece began with an electric 12 string guitar with all the strings replaced with very light-gauge strings and tuned in a pentationic "5th-y" kind of system, very high. I ended up with a few melodic phrases that I liked (the opening fivenote phrase, the "harmonics section" that recurs throughout the tune, etc.). With I yle, over the course of a few days, we wrote the basic arrangement, using those few phrases as the basic materials, with Lyle adding a lot of new melodic material. The form of the long improvised piano solo evolved tremendously over the course of the next year from getting played each night (sometimes twice; we often played two shows a night in those days). Recorded on the albums Pat Metheny Group and Travels. (Page 54)

# LONE JACK (Metheny/Mays)

The basic tune was another one written for the Mike "Ryle's gig" in '76. Finished with Lyle adding the interlude/intro/outro in June of '77. An easy, fun tune to play. Recorded on the albums Pat Metheny Group and Trio 99—00. (Page 50)

# APRIL WIND (Metheny)

1977. This one was never played live—it was written as a special piece for the first PMG record as a kind of reprise to the "Phase Dance" motif that was such a part of the group's early identity. I wanted to write a melody for Mark Egan to play somewhere on the record to feature his Jaco-esque sound as the lead voice. The tag part of the tune features a kind of simple diatonic harmony that was popular in the pop music of that time and that I still really love to play over. **Recorded on the album Pat Metheny Group**, (Page 34)

#### **NEW CHAUTAUQUA** (Metheny)

1978. Written in Munich, Germany at the end of a long European tour. A song about Lee's Summit and the feeling out there. My great grandfather, Moses Metheny, was a member of the traveling ministrel organization called the Chautauqua that traveled all over the Michwest and Southwest. My grandfather (Harrison) once commented to me that he felt that what we were doing at the time (traveling all over the place playing music) was something like the "New Chautauqua" that he had heard his father talk about. The tune features a kind of rhythmic strumming that I have always loved to do, featured here for the first time on an album. Recorded on the album New Chautauqua. (Page 62)

#### LONG AGO CHILD (Metheny)

1978. Written in Munich, Germany. A series of chords designed to be overdubbed as a textural piece—an often encouraged way of making music for ECM recordings of this period. **Recorded on the album New Chautauqua**. (Page 61)

#### HERMITAGE (Metheny)

1978. Written in Schwabing, Austria at a club operated by our good friend and sometimes roadie, Jo Harting. The club was called "Ermitage" and was a real favorite stop for our band as well as many other musicians traveling around Europe. The tune itself is based on a simple arpeggio with a few deceptive modulations before the simple minor-key hook at the end. Recorded on the album New Chautauqua and another version on Charlie Haden's Quartet West. (Page 64)

#### SUEÑO CON MEXICO (Metheny)

1978. Written in Oslo, Norway just before the recording of the album New Chautauqua. I was messing around with the Nashville tuning once again—and discovered these two simple chord/arpeggios and built a tune around them by changing bass notes to give different meanings to the chords. One of the few ostinato-based pieces from around this time. The title refers to a dream from around that period. Recorded on the album New Chautauqua. (Page 66)

#### DAYBREAK (Metheny)

1978. Written in Munich. Strumming was again a prime component in the writing process—this time it was early Beatles music that provided the inspiration. **Recorded on the album New Chautauqua**. (Page 68)

#### AMERICAN GARAGE (Metheny/Mays)

1979. Jamaica Plains, Mass. The original lick that makes up the bass line for this was written in 1975 for a small concert with John McKee at Unity Village. Lyle developed the piece further with the intro and the idea for the first "A" section, and together we came up with the body of the tune and the soloing section. This was another one that really kind of grew beyond the notes on the page from playing it night after night. **Recorded on the album** *American Garage*: (Page 78)

# (CROSS THE) HEARTLAND (Metheny/Mays)

At some point in '78, on one of our breaks, Lyle did his own gig at Ryle's in Cambridge, a favorite place of all of ours around that time to hang out in and play. For this gig he brought up some friends of his from Dallas, Texas whom he had played with while at school there, and used the occasion to write some new music. This piece was one of them. Later, we came up with a way of doing it for the PMG, including the beautiful bass interlude that Lyle wrote for Mark Egan to play (based on a chord sequence that I had written for my brother and I to play at my parents' 30th anniversary that same year), and then we came up with the basic blowing form that the guitar solo on the outro is based on. **Recorded on the album American Garage.** (Page 70)

# THE SEARCH (Metheny)

In 1978, we were approached for the first time to write music to accompany visual images. The project was a science series for high school students call "The Search for Solution." This was the main theme that was written for the series—conceived again using an unconventionally tuned guitar, this time a 12-string tuned all in octaves from the A below the normal low E on a regular guitar to the A that would reside on the G string normally. Each string, of course, had another string an octave higher above it. This song also featured Lyle's trademark Oberheim sound taking the lead for the first time as the primary voice in a song. **Recorded on the album American Garage**. (Page 25)

# AIRSTREAM (Metheny/Mays)

The main "hook" of this tune was one of those things that I had had floating around for a few years that I didn't really know what to do with. Lyle really was able to help me define a context for this cool little musical idea, and it found a home. One of my favorites of our work together during this period. Recorded on the album American Garage and a vocal version was recorded by the group Perri. (Page 82)

# THE EPIC (Metheny/Mays)

We laugh about this one a lot. I believe that this may be the only time we sat down with nothing, no sketches done by one or the other of us, just blank pieces of paper, and tried to write something together. It may be a feature of the piece, or maybe not, but the tune is certainly all over the map. We had the notion of expanding on the idea of having a piece that was almost like a suite in itself with lots of sections and an unusual form. I would say we learned a lot from the preparation and performance of this piece that served us well later on. Recorded on the album American Garage. (Page 86)

#### EVERY DAY (I THANK YOU) (Metheny)

Written 1979 while on tour with the PMG in a hotel room in Bremen, Germany: Similar in form to a previous tune, "Ivy," in that the form is an even eighth-note groove sandwiched between rubato statements of a melody. This was the tune that

made me start thinking about making the record 80/81 with Mike Brecker—it was easy to imagine how well he could play a tune like this even though at that point in time he hadn't done anything quite like this. **Recorded on the album 80/81**. (Page 93)

# 80/81 (Metheny)

Written in early '80. Dewey Redman had been and still is one of my favorite tenor players, and I was so excited to have him join us on 80/81. This tune was written with Dewey in mind. **Recorded on the album 80/81**. (Page 96)

#### FOLK SONG #1 (Metheny)

Written in early 1980. Again, the idea of "strumming," an area of natural study for prefty much every beginning guitar player, that tends to get lost after one decides to concentrate on single note or more soloist kinds of playing. Or, if you become a jazz musician, the kind of chordal playing one does tends to become more planistic. With this piece, I wanted to try to develop a rhythm guitar role that would be active and in constant counterpoint to the bass and the drums, and in particular to the modern kind of drumming that I knew would be coming from Jack DeJohnette. The melody, played by Brecker, was a simple one, as was the harmonic flavor of the piece. All the more exciting then to hear what Brecker did with it all on the record, in my opinion one of his best recorded solos. **Recorded on the album 80/81**. (Page 98)

#### THE BAT (Metheny)

1979. This is a piece written specifically for Dewey Redman to play. With one of the most soulful and expressive tones in jazz, Dewey can make a ballad all his own. The tune has a kind of dogleg in it via the odd harmonic movement at the 2/4 bar and the rhythmic interruption of the 2/4 bar itself, making it a challenge to improvise on. The title is a reference to a nickname for Shu Shubat, who went on to become the founder of the jelleye performance group. **Recorded on the albums 80/81, Offramp, and Billy Drummond's album, Dubai.** (Page 97)

#### PRETTY SCATTERED (Metheny)

Written early 1980. During the period before the recording of 80/81, I did a number of gigs with different musicians at Ryle's, trying out new music. This piece was written for a gig that featured Bob Borg on tenor, one of my favorite players. Recorded on the album 80/81. (Page 100)

# GOIN' AHEAD (Metheny)

Written early 1980. This was originally a quintet piece written for the 80/81 date. We tried it, and it didn't really work for that lineup. As the session went on, it became clear that we were going to have enough music for a double album. The idea came up of this piece being played as a solo guitar piece to end the record. I remember using the "house" guitar (an old lbanez) that was there at the studio in Oslo because it was easier to play than the acoustic 1 had brought with me. Recorded on the album 80/81. (Page 102)

# BETTER DAYS AHEAD (Metheny)

1979. Written on tour with the group in Fulton, Missouri. In fact, for many years, the working title of this song was "fulton." This is a really fun and challenging tune that stayed in the group's playlist without ever being recorded for many years (until 1989 to be exact). Recorded on the album Letter from Home and the recent Brad Mehldau/Fleurine duet album. (Page 104)

# SEPTEMBER FIFTEENTH (Metheny/Mays)

Part one—written in '77, Cambridge, Mass. Part two—written in '74, Evanston, Ill. Both finished in '80 in Watertown, Mass. This is an example where Lyle and I combined two tunes that we had written separately into one. The opening "ballad" was something that Lyle composed when he got his first Oberheim polyphonic synth during the earliest days of the group's first rehearsal period. The faster waltz section was something that I had originally written for the group Oregon, whom I had been seeing often during engagements where they would play opposite the Button quartet. When Lyle and I decided to do what would become the Wichita record, we found how well the two pieces (which we had planned on recording separately) complemented each other. Around the time of the recording, Bill Evans, an important figure in both of our lives, sadly passed away. We dedicated this piece to Bill. Recorded on the album As Falls Wichita, So Falls Wichita Falls; also recorded by Mark Murphy. (Page 107)

# TRAVELS (Metheny/Mays)

Written 1980, Oslo, Norway. This was actually written during the mixing period of the Wichita album, on the famous "Rainbow" studios Steinway, which I always loved to go play whenever we were there making records. This was an easy one. I remember writing the "A" section, Lyle coming out and checking it out and sitting down and comining up with the bridge, and that was pretty much it. Again, this is a tune that evolved a lot over the course of getting played every night until it became what it is on the record. Recorded on the albums Travels and Trio 99—00. (Page 112)

# JAMES (Metheny/Mays)

1980. This was originally written for the quartet that toured for much of the year 1980 in support of the 80/81 record—Dewey Redman, Charlie Haden, Paul Motian, and myself. It ended up being reworked a number of times before being recorded by the group on the record Offramp, with Lyle writing the nice introduction. "lames" is for James Taylor, one of my favorite guitar players. Recorded on the album Offramp with other versions by Roy Haynes, Bob James, Martin Taylor, and others. (Page 114)

# AS FALLS WICHITA, SO FALLS WICHITA FALLS (Metheny/Mays)

1979 1980, Watertown, Mass. First there was the idea of having a piece that would actually begin fifteen minutes or so before we actually walked out onstage for our performances, one that would gradually build into what would be our first tune of the night. Tyle wrote a demo version of what this piece would be like, and we made a tape of it that included my brother Mike playing some distant trumpet parts on it. Although we did try to use it in that capacity (just once, a concert at Tufts University in Medford, Mass.), we abandonded that idea pretty quickly—but part of that piece later became the second part of this piece, the idea of which was that we would really explore the orchestration potential of what we could do with these new instruments—and again, the same 12-string tuning that appears on "The Search." The concept was to go ahead and use the studio itself as an instrument by utilizing overdubbing techniques and to try to create a piece that would essentially fill an entire side of an album. This album also marked the first of several collaborations with Nana Vasconcelos, the Brazilian percussionist, whose colors and earthiness added a new dimension to our sound and offered a natural balance to the increased use of modern musical instrument technology that was beginning to emerge as an increasingly important part of our thing. The title came from Steve Swallow. Recorded on the album As Falls Wichita, So Falls Wichita Falls. (Page 116)

# ESTUPENDA GRACA (Metheny/Mays)

1980, Watertown, Mass. Using yet another 12-string tuning, this is an elaboration on a brief segment of the tune "Amazing Grace." This was the first time we had anyone sing an actual melody on any of our records, the singer being percussionist Nana Vasconcelos. Recorded on the album As Falls Wichita, So Falls Wichita Falls. (Page 126)

# OFFRAMP (Metheny/Mays)

1980. Another piece written for the tour with Dewey, Charlie, and Paul. A piece designed to set up a particular kind of improvisation. The title came from Paul Motian. **Recorded on the album Offramp.** (Page 128)

#### ARE YOU GOING WITH ME? (Metheny/Mays)

1980, Willow, NY. This was in the first batch of tunes that I wrote after I began working with the Synclavier, a new (at that time) and powerful digital music system that allowed me to make multitrack recordings and manipulate musical data with a computer. Because I could literally improvise right into the computer, for the first time I and other musicians had the opportunity to create nearly fully realized versions of tunes very quickly. One summer day, I went for a walk in the woods, came back in the house, and played this piece into the machine. It sort of came all as one thing, and I didn't have to change anything. (Good thing; at that point, you couldn't really edit anything on the Synclav—they hadn't gotten to that yet.) I then found that by playing a solo over this form with the GR300 guitar synth, another relatively new instrument for me, a certain new sound was possible that I had never experienced before. This remains one of my favorite tunes to play. Recorded on the albums Offramp and Travels. (Page 132)

# BARCAROLE (Metheny/Mays/Vasconcelos)

1980, Willow, NY. Again, a Synclav-based piece. This is really a sketch of an idea or a mood that wound up being more or less an intro on the record for "Are You Going With Me!" **Recorded on the album Offramp.** (Page 129)

# EIGHTEEN (Metheny/Mays/Vasconcelos)

1980, Willow, NY. As has happened several times since, we needed something more "up" to balance the ballads and mid-tempo tunes that we had. Again, the Synclav was a component in this. To me, this tune always had a kind of rock and roll, Beach Boys thing, something that was totally lost on the record producer at the time who insisted that we were attempting to rip off Steve Reich's Music for 18 Musicians, an idea so convoluted and bizarre that if it hadn't been so ridiculous would actually have been funny. But, that silliness eventually gave the song its title—"Eighteen." Another notable detail of this piece is that Lyle came up with the main guitar "riff" on the guitar (which he is actually really good at playing), while I did most of the keyboard parts on the Synclav as the piece was being composed. After we had it fleshed out, we did return to our "real" instruments to record the track. Recorded on the album Offramp. (Page 136)

# EXTRADITION (Metheny)

1980, Willow, NY. A new tune written to feature the Roland GR300 in a more "changes"-intensive environment. This is a really fun tune to play. The song's name has to do with a story that was in the news at that time, and this one became the first of many songs to be titled by our then newest member of the group, bassist Steve Rodby. Recorded on the album *Travels*. (Page 140)

#### FARMER'S TRUST (Metheny)

1981, Waltham, Mass. Another song that just showed up, written for the group to feature a new area of performance for me—playing nylon-string acoustic guitar with a pick, live. This song, particularly the inner voice leading, has evolved over the years of getting played to what it is here in the book. The title refers to a business that for many years was located in the heart of downtown Lee's Summit, that I as a kid thought had to do with where the farmers went to get their trust that the crops would grow. Later, I found out it was just a savings bank. Recorded on the album Travels with other versions by Jim Hall, Gary Burton, Mike Metheny, and others. (Pave 142)

# GOODBYE (Metheny)

1981, Waltham, Mass. A song written really as a "song"—to feature Nana singing. Also a fun and challenging tune to solo on. This was a staple of the band during the period that Nana was in the band. **Recorded on the album** *Travels.* (Page 146)

#### THE FIELDS, THE SKY (Metheny)

1980, Willow, NY. A piece designed to feature Nana and his berimbau in live performance—the berimbau being an instrument that functions well in a situation that has a harmonic pedal point. The melody part (after the initial blowing section) was again written on the Synclav. **Recorded on the album Travels.** (Page 143)

#### STRAIGHT ON RED (Metheny)

1981, Willow, NY/Waltham, Mass. This was one of the first times that Lyle got his hands dirty with the Synclav, an instrument that I think intrigued, yet infuriated him for its lack of features and poor user interface. I had written what is the "hook" part of this time and had it stored as a file. At this point, you still couldn't edit on the machine, so we wound up writing the rest of the tune together in a more conventional way and then replaying everything into the Clav. This was also an early attempt at synching up several machines (a DMX drum machine) together with the band for live performance—something that even as I write this twenty years later makes me shudder to even think about. Still, this was one of the most exciting vehicles for Lyle in this period of the band's book—he played great solos on this every night. Recorded on the album Travels. (Page 148)

#### SONG FOR BILBAO (Metheny)

1981, Willow, NY. A very simple blowing tune, again written on the Synclav to teature the guitar synth. The challenge of this tune is to negotiate the 3/4 bars. The tune was originally inspired by McCoy Tyner, and its working title for many years was "McCoy" for that reason. That made it even more exciting to get to record this tune with McCoy himself on Mike Brecker's Tales from the Hudson. The tune is dedicated to the people of Bilbao, Spain, the site of our very first concert in an Iberian country in 1983—and one of the warmest and most exciting listening audiences in the world. Recorded on the album Travels and by Michael Brecker. (Page 152)

#### STORY FROM A STRANGER (Metheny)

1983. Written as a piece for Billy Higgins, Charlie Haden, and me to play at a concert in Santa Monica, Calif. We actually didn't play it that night, but did record it later on *Rejoicing*. **Recorded on the album** *Rejoicing*. (Page 154)

# THE CALLING (Metheny)

1983. Again, a piece written for the trio with Charlie and Billy, to feature the Roland. In our live gigs, this piece would go all over the place, with Billy sometimes playing the sarod and Charlie playing arco and me trying lots of new sounds with the Synclay guitar, which was just being developed around this time. Sometimes it could last for 30 or 45 minutes. A few years later, this tune also became a staple of the Song X tour, although it did not appear on that record. Recorded on the album Rejoicing. (Page 156)

# THE RED WIND (Metheny)

1983. Cambridge, Mass. A piece commissioned by Charlie Haden for his then new band, Quartet West. Recorded on Charlie Haden's Quartet West. (Page 157)

#### MAS ALLA (METHENY)

1982, Willow, NY. The idea of having songs that could be sung started to really appeal to me around this time, and this is an example of that desire. Originally presented to Nana during his stay with the band, it was a year later when Pedro Aznar joined the band that this tune found its identity. A real favorite. (Pedro wrote words to it that can be found elsewhere in this book.) Recorded on the album First Circle. (Page 158)

#### FIRST CIRCLE (Metheny/Mays)

1983, Waltham, Mass. After working with Jerry Goldsmith on the score for the film Under Fire, a lot of new ideas came up-I spent a week holed up in our warehouse in Waltham just writing down everything that came to mind. One comment that Jerry made really stuck with me, and that was that as a performer, I should watch out for the tendency to just write things that I could already play, rather than the more composerly thing of writing things beyond one's playing ability with the faith that somebow it will eventually be performed. This struck a chord with me, and for a first exercise in this area, I decided I would construct a musical situation (in this case, the rhythm 3-2-3-2-2-3-3-2-2) and see if I could come up with a musical solution to the question that that rhythm seemed to be asking-without ever actually really being able to play any of it. What I came up with was the intro, the tune and its bridge, the playing form, and the basic setting for the piano solo. Later, Lyle added the vocal intro, the fantastic interlude section that follows the solo, and together we came up with an ending, with Tyle writing the great counterpart line to the final statement of the melody. This remains one of the most fun tunes in our book—and one of the tunes I think we are both most proud of having worked on together. Recorded on the album First Circle and other versions from the group Boca Livre and many student ensembles of all types around the world. (Page 160)

#### IF I COULD (Metheny)

1983. Dedicated to Wes Montgomery. I wanted to write a song to fry to describe the immeasurable gratitude I felt towards the man who is to me the greatest guitarist in history. I did have the chance to have meet him once, when I was 13 years old. I asked him for his autograph at the Kansas City Jazz Festival in April of 1968, just a few months before he died. My recollection of him was that I had never seen a kinder looking man, and his performance that night made a lifelong impression on me that has directly affected the course of virtually every walking minute of my life since. But I think often about the debt that I as a musician owe to him, and about how much I wish that I had been able to really thank him in person for the gift of his music. Recorded on the album First Circle, and Stanley Turrentine made an album with this being the title track. (Page 168)

#### END OF THE GAME (Metheny/Mays)

1983, Willow, NY. Again, a tune written on the Synclav, with some similarities to "Are You Going With Me?" Lyle wrote a beautiful release section after the main guitar solo, and the "drumming" stuff that Paul Wertico and Pedro play in unison throughout the piece was difficult to pull of live, which is why this tune was rarely, if ever played on tour. Recorded on the album First Circle. (Page 170)

#### HOUSE ON THE HILL (Metheny)

1983, Waltham, Mass. Another one from that post *Under Fire* weekend. This tune really didn't find a home until many years later where it wound up being played beautifully by Gary Burton on one of his albums. A simple song with a few extra bars here and there in the form. **Recorded by Gary Burton on the album** *Reunion*. (Page 174)

#### THE CHIEF (Metheny)

1983, Waltham, Mass. Another from that same weekend. This tune was the rare uptempo one for me from around this time—and it never really fit with the PMG's conception even though we played it occasionally and it was often on the "maybe" list of tunes waiting to get recorded. Again, it found an excellent home with Gary Burton on his *Reunion* record, where Gary just owned it on sight. (In fact, "The Chief" was everyone's nickname for G.B. during those '70s ECM days.) **Recorded by Gary Burton on the album** *Reunion*. (Page 167)

#### WASN'T ALWAYS EASY (Metheny)

1983, Waltham, Mass. Yet another from that Waltham weekend after the Goldsmith experience. Again, this didn't quite suit the band at that time, and again, I submitted it to Gary Burton—who played it beautifully. **Recorded by Gary Burton on the album Reunion**. (Page 178)

#### TELL IT ALL (Metheny/Mays)

1984, Waltham, Mass. After a year of touring with new group members Pedro Aznar and Paul Wertico, we were ready to define our new sound. One of the most exciting aspects of the new band was Paul's energy and forward-thinking way of hitting the drums. This tune grew out of a jam session that we had where Paul and I played a groove like this for about an hour. I was also trying a harder kind of guitar sound by using the conventional guitar aspect of the Roland GR300—something new for me around that time. Lyle also had the cool idea of playing the same notes he was playing on a mounted go-go bell on the piano in unison—a great effect. And the final ensemble bit of Steve playing in arco with Pedro singing in unison was the a new thing for us as well. This was a piece where Lyle and I really worked out the guitar/piano ensemble voicings in detail, finding exactly the right notes to play to create the effect that we have often sought, of turning the guitar/piano ensemble blend into something that really defined the sound of the band. Recorded on the album First Circle. (Page 180)

# FORWARD MARCH (Metheny)

1983, Waltham, Mass. During this period I was actively involved with the New England Digital Corporation as a consultant in the development of what they were calling the "Digital Guitar"—an interface between a conventional guitar and their Synclavier. One of the features of the Synclav was the ability to change the "octave ratio"—in other words, to completely alter the note-to-fret ratio on a guitar. This allowed me the chance to get a much wider range of registers out of the guitar, from far below the lowest note of a piano to far above the highest. This piece was written using a special octave ratio that allowed me to somehow channel every little bit of residual high school angst and marching band frustration into a short, but very effective live piece. Should it have started the record? As I have often said in situations like this, "It seemed like a good idea at the time!" **Recorded on the album** *First Circle. (Page 184)* 

# PRAISE (Metheny/Mays)

1983, Cambridge, Mass. Sometimes a new instrument inspires a new tune—in this case, I had just received a beautiful new acoustic 12-string built by Canadian luthier Linda Manzer, and the tune came popping out. Lyle came up with the intro and the bridge, and together we wrote the Beatle-esque middle section. This tune is also notable for the use of the "flute" sound, which was Pedro Aznar "sampled" via the Synclavier with him playing his pan flute and "played" by my guitar—a hig deal at the time, and a first for us. **Recorded on the album First Circle**. (Page 187)

#### PARALLEL REALITIES (Methenv)

1984, Waltham, Mass. A piece written for an NED workshop in Lebanon, NH, played live by the Synclav and me, with a great saxophone player, Fred Haas, joining in. I resurrected this piece a few years later for Jack DeJohnette's record of the same name, and it's one of my favorites from that period. **Recorded on the album Parallel Realities by Jack DeJohnette**. (Page 192)

# IOHN MCKEE (Metheny)

1984, Waltham, Mass. John McKee is one of the most important musicians in my life, a great piano player from Lee's Summit who introduced all of us in the neighborhood to the music of Thelonius Monk, Bill Evans, Miles Davis, and others. Also a brilliant person and true character. This piece is dedicated to John. Recorded on the album Parallel Realities by Jack DeJohnette and another version by drummer Roy Haynes. (Page 190)

#### DANCING (Metheny)

1984, Waltham, Mass. Another one written for the NED seminar that found its way to the DeJohnette project later. A simple vamp with a complex melody, and a bridge that is played beautifully by Herbie Hancock on the record. **Recorded on the album** *Parallel Realities* by Jack DeJohnette. (*Page 193*)



1984, Cambridge, Mass. Written the night Lgot back from Mexico City where I had been invited to watch a day of shooting for the film *The Falcon and the Snowman*. This piece felt like the mood of the film to me. It went on to become the main theme for the character Chris Boyce, played in the movie by Timothy Hutton. This is the same piece that is the toundation for the song "This Is Not America." Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film *The Falcon and the Snowman*. (Page 196)

#### **DAULTON LEE** (Metheny/Mays)

1984, London, England. Lyle and I agreed to write the music for *The Falcon and the Snowman*. We needed another main theme for the other main character in the story, Daulton Lee, played by Sean Penn. Lyle quickly came up with this wonderful 6/4 groove that seemed to evoke everything about Sean's character. Together we finished it in one afternoon, feeling like it was one of our best tunes ever. It was just as quickly rejected by the film's director. We then frantically began a week of writing a number of other pieces, trying to get the flavor that the director was looking for included in this batch was what went on to become the song "(It's Just) Talk". All rejected. Finally in desperation (we were losing valuable time), we played him the original demo of our original "Daulton Lee" again—without mentioning to him that he had already heard it about a week before. This time, almost ten days later, he loved it. This marked our introduction into big-time film scoring. The melody is played on the Synclav digital guitar—a real challenge. **Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film The Falcon and the Snowman**. (Page 197)

# (IT'S JUST) TALK (Metheny)

1984, London, England. This idea had actually been floating around for awhile; there is even an early version of a tune that includes parts of this piece around the time of the *Travels* recordings. But it never really got finished until we were searching for "Daulton Lee" theme tunes. It was never recorded until *Still Life* (*Talking*) a few years later, when finally after trying to write about a hundred bridges for this tune (I thought I would never get one that worked), an acceptable one finally showed up. **Recorded on the album** *Still Life* **(***Talking***). (***Page 204***)** 

#### THIS IS NOT AMERICA (Metheny/Mays/Bowie)

1984, Montreaux, Switzerland. After two months of work in London on the score itself, we all flew to Switzerland where David had reserved a studio. His original demo was basically the song "Chris" with additional Linn drums added to it and him singing over the top. It worked great, and seeing him in action and doing the track with him was a real pleasure. The words, often hard to discern, are profound and meaningful—and absolutely perfect for the film. Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film The Falcon and the Snowman. (Page 200)

#### KATHELIN GRAY (Coleman/Metheny)

1985, New York, NY. A melody written by Ornette that he asked me to add to by writing my own kind of chord changes. There would be dozens of ways to harmonize this piece, but I wanted to come up with something that would also be fun to solo on harmonically since this would be the rare Ornette tune that would in fact have a conventional harmonic playing form. **Recorded on the album Song X.** (Page 209)

# TRIGONOMETRY (Metheny/Coleman)

1985, New York, NY. The first phrase is mine, the second is Ornette's, third is mine, and the fourth final long one is Ornette's. We probably have half a dozen more unrecorded tunes like this that we wrote in the three weeks prior to the recording of Song X by the described method of playing phrases back and forth, and then transcribing them later and relearning them. Recorded on the albums Song X and Roy Haynes' Te Vou. (Page 210)

# MINUANO (SIX-EIGHT) (Metheny/Mays)

1986, Waltham, Mass. The "tune" part of this one was written again after receiving vet another new Manzer guitar, this time a miniature, high-strung soprano guitar. Playing it like a Brazilian "cavaquino," the melody came quickly with the basic tenbar phrase. The piece was later reexamined by Lyle when we really got serious about the writing on what would become the record Still Life (Talking). His intro and the "marimba" section took the tune to another place. Soloing on this tune was always fun and also quite difficult, for the tempo and the particulars of the chord structure. Also, with the recording of this piece, we began a new and important era for the band, one in which we were able to focus much more extensively on the details of the recorded sound and performances; we finally felt free to really explore the studio and what it had to offer us on a more complete musical level. Steve Rodby's role expanded quite a bit beyond being just the bassist in the band during this period as he also became much more involved in the making of the records as a valuable producer. Recorded on the album Still Life (Talking), (Page 214)

#### SO MAY IT SECRETLY BEGIN (Metheny)

1986, Waltham, Mass. Based on a weird hi-hat pattern that came out of a writing session on the "Clav," the bass line emerged (seems people often think it is some time signature other than 4/4). The tune itself is a simple minor blues-type thing—but durable and still fun to play on. The title is taken from a Paul Klee painting of the same name. Recorded on the album Still Life (Talking) and another version by vocalist Kevyn Lettau. (Page 211)

# LAST TRAIN HOME (Metheny)

1986, Waltham, Mass. The electric sitar was an instrument that I had used to color various tracks for the previous few years—and I wanted to write something that would feature it as a lead voice for an entire tune. Irains, and the sounds of trains, are familiar and important to me; the Missouri Pacific line was just outside the

window of the house I grew up in, and the sound of distant trains was a constant counterpoint to growing up in Lee's Summit. This tune was without a bridge for a long time—finally just before we recorded it, the bridge came, shown here in this book with the excellent vocal counterline that tyle came up with for the arrangement of the tune that appears on the record. Recorded on the album Still Life (Talking). (Page 224)

# IN HER FAMILY (Metheny)

1986, Willow, NY. Actually written on the last day of summer vacation upstate, for a long time had the working title "Last Day." Kind of the precursor to other pianobased ballad pieces played with soprano guitars doubling the high register of the piano. Dedicated to the Youngs kids, Robin, John, Jimmy, and Gail. Recorded on the album Still Life (Talking). (Page 227)

#### THIRD WIND (Metheny/Mays)

1986, Waltham, Mass. Again we found ourselves with a fair amount of ballads and mid-tempo tunes, needing something "up." I took the weird hi-hat pattern described above on "So May it Secretly Begin" and sped it up, writing the "A" section. Lyle then sent the whole thing off into a totally different area with the fast polyrhythmic interlude and the 12/8 tag with that great, memorable hook for the singers and the changes for the Roland solo at the end. **Recorded on the alhum Still Life (Talking)**. (Page 228)

# **LETTER FROM HOME** (Metheny)

1985, Cambridge, Mass. Originally used as a theme in the film score for the movie Twice in a Lifetime. Again using the soprano guitar to double a melody written on the piano and conceived as a piano piece. This piece also marked the beginning of a new era for me as a writer in terms of not accepting any melody notes that could be any note other than the one note it could only be. When I wrote this tune, I sat in the same chair for about eighteen hours waiting for these singular acceptable notes to show up; the final page when I finished was just a mess of erased notes, crossed out phrases, and extended arrows connected to odd bars and phrases that turned out to be dead ends. But the final version that I walked away from that session with was unlike anything I had written until then, and I have tried to maintain that standard of critical melodic detail as much as possible ever since. Dedicated to Jo Harting, a member of our touring organization for many years. Recorded on the album Letter from Home and the film score to the movie Twice in a Lifetime and another version by singer Noa. (Page 238)

# GRAMPA'S GHOST (Metheny)

1985, Waltham, Mass. A piece based on an idea written for Tim Hutton's directorial debut in the TV series Amazing Stories. Using the Synclav to try to create new sounds, this was a tune designed to be played using this creaky ensemble of a way-stretched-out piano, a sitar, and a guitar all doubled into one high-pitched sound. Never recorded on an album. (Page 239)

# SLIP AWAY (Metheny)

1987, Willow, NY. An idea that floated around for a number of years before turning into anything. Typical of the kinds of melodies that seem to always show up from around this time. The form and the structure of the piece were really hammered out in the writing period that preceded the recording. **Recorded on the album Letter from Home.** (Page 240)

#### HAVE YOU HEARD (Metheny)

1988, Waltham, Mass. The first piece written for the '89 album Letter from Home, designed as a fast minor blues tune to get the concert started. When I went to write it out, the meter changes were a suprise—I was sure it was in 4/4. One of the most fun tunes we have to play live. **Recorded on the album Letter from Home**. (Page 242)

# SPRING AIN'T HERE (Metheny)

1988, Waltham, Mass. A tune inspired by Stanley Turrentine, one of my favorite musicians. Like all of the tunes from around this time, the Synclav was the medium. The palette of sounds available was always inspiring to me; in this case, a combination of all the bell-like Rhodes-type sounds made up an ensemble that was lush and lent itself to these kinds of harmonies. The "mystery" rhythm at the end of the 5/4 section is in fact a 4/4 bar. **Recorded on the album Letter from Home.** (Page 246)

#### DREAM OF THE RETURN (Metheny)

1986, Rio De Janerio, Brazil. A tune that had been floating around for awhile, that I had originally written for some Brazilian friends of mine, a group called Boca Livre, (which was its working title for several years). I didn't really finish this until just before the recording, and once again, Pedro Aznar wrote Spanish words to go with it. **Recorded on the album Letter from Home**. (Page 235)

# 557 (Metheny/Mays)

1988. Waltham, Mass. Like "First Circle," I started with a rhythmic template and worked from there, this time with two bars of 5/4 followed by a bar of 7/4 (which is where the title comes from). That generated the melody and the basic setting for the piece, which I later resolved with the more 6/4-ish blowing section. Together, Lyle and I wrote the interlude section that follows the solo, again taking the tune to another place. This was one of the first times we invited Steve Rodby to sit in with us at a writing session, where he was as effective at helping us get good results during that part of the process as he would be later during the actual recording of the pieces themselves. **Recorded on the album Letter from Home**. (Page 250)

#### 45/8 (Metheny/Mays)

1988, Waltham, Mass. The rhythmic template idea taken to an extreme. Lyle wrote a simple 8-bar phrase that provided the antidote and some relief to all the counting. **Recorded on the album Letter from Home.** (Page 256)

#### BEAT 70 (Metheny/Mays)

1989, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Again, needing an up-tempo tune to complete the program for the record, this one showed up. Not really one of my favorites, but often effective, especially live. Recorded on the albums Letter from Home and The Road to You. (Page 259)

#### **EVERY SUMMER NIGHT** (Metheny)

1988, Montreal, Quebec. Dedicated to the people of Montreal and the fantastic events that they present every summer night by way of their festivals, and especially the Montreal lazz Festival—probably the best of its kind in the world. The tune is clearly influenced by Burt Bacharach, an important musician and influence in my musical life since childhood. Recorded on the album Letter from Home. (Page 262)

#### **QUESTION & ANSWER** (Metheny)

1988, Cambridge, Mass. A piece written for a gig with saxophonist Dave Liebman at Ryle's around this time. A time that has provided a lot of playing opportunities over the years since. The end of the bridge is inspired by the harmonic advances of John Coltrane and his music. Recorded on the albums Question & Answer and Like Minds. (Page 264)

#### **CHANGE OF HEART** (Metheny)

1985, on the road somewhere. This tune was played for many years by the PMG, and I think we may have even recorded it once or twice but never included it on one of our Group records. It is an ideal tune for a trio situation because of the way the note F remains a constant, allowing for a certain effect to be achieved with the limited instrumentation of a trio. Recorded on the album Question & Answer. (Page 266)

#### H & H (Metheny)

1989, New York, NY. Written for the rhythm section of Dave Holland and Roy Haynes who had only rarely played together prior to the "Q & A" session that this piece was written for. Inspired especially by Dave Holland's music. A blues in B major, a challenging key to improvise in. **Recorded on the album Question & Answer**. (Page 268)

#### **NEVER TOO FAR AWAY** (Metheny)

1988, Paris, France. Originally written for a one night gig at the New Morning Club in Paris with Charlie Haden on bass and Paul Wertico on drums. We had an off night on a PMG tour, and I really wanted to stay playing, so we booked this concert. Ended up being just right for the "Q & A" session. **Recorded on the album** *Question* & *Answer*. (Page 270)

# THREE FLIGHTS UP (Metheny)

1989, New York, NY. A tune written at the last minute for the session with Dave and Roy. Designed to feature Roy's incredible way of playing fast tempos. **Recorded on the album Question & Answer.** (Page 269)

#### HALF LIFE OF ABSOLUTION (Metheny/Mays)

1985–1990. This tune had a few early incarnations before it wound up in the form that it appears in on the Road to You album. It was originally written for a gig at Ryle's that I participated in led by trumpeter Tiger Okoshi, with Dave Holland and Paul Wertico. Later, we had another version of it that we actually played a few times on a Japanese tour. But the version that was finalized for these performances came together in Waltham just before we left on that '89 tour, with the addition of a new bridge and an extensive reharmonization of the out melody that Lyle and I came up with the night before we left, and it continued to evolve considerably each night from concert to concert over the course of that tour. Recorded on the album The Road to You. (Page 272)

#### THE ROAD TO YOU (Metheny)

1984, Willow, NY. One of the only tunes I ever wrote by whistling the melody. The tune has some real challenges to solo over, but it is a fun one to play. **Recorded on the album The Road to You.** (Page 278)

#### NAKED MOON (Metheny)

1987, Reno, Nev. Written after a concert while the crew was learing down all the gear with only the piano remaining—with me annoying them by continuing to work after the show was over, a common occurrence around this time. This tune was in the book for a while, then fell out for a while and was then revived for the Europe tour that *The Road to You* came from. **Recorded on the album** *The Road to You*. (Page 276)

#### NINE OVER REGGAE (Metheny/DeJohnette)

1989, Willow, NY, Jack's tune in 9/4 was written but needed a melody. Basically, I contributed that along with a fair amount of organizational-type stuff for this tune and the others on this record. This was a really fun record to make, and Jack is not only one of the greatest drummers of all time, he is one of the greatest all-around jazz musicians on any instrument. Recorded on the Jack DeJohnette album Parallel Realities. (Page 279)

# THE LAST TO KNOW (Metheny)

1989. Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. A piece written that could build within itself over the course of its entire form—kind of an ostinato but with a built-in crescendo. Gil Goldstein's arrangement of this tune on Wallace Roney's version took the tune to another place in a great way. Recorded on the album Misterios by Wallace Roney and Cool Nights by Gary Burton. (Page 176)

# COOL NIGHTS (Metheny)

1989, Waltham, Mass. Written for a Gary Burton record that I knew would feature Will Lee, one of my favorite bass players. This was written with him and G.B. in mind. Recorded on the Burton album Cool Nights. (Page 282)

#### ALWAYS AND FOREVER (Methenv)

1989, Waltham, Mass. Dedicated to my mom and dad and the great relationship that they have had throughout their life together—more than 50 years together.

Recorded on the album Secret Story and another version by trumpeter Roy Hargrove. (Page 284)

#### ANTONIA (Metheny)

1988, Angra, Brazil. Originally used in a piece written for Le Ballet Jazz de Montreal for the Montreal Jazz Festival that year. **Recorded on the album Secret Story**. (Page 286)

#### THE TRUTH WILL ALWAYS BE (Metheny)

1988, Waltham, Mass/Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Floated around for a season or so before also finding a home in the above-mentioned ballet piece, and later as the conclusion of the Secret Story album. I have always felt that this particular tune summed up a bunch of personal and musical issues close to my heart. An important one for me. Recorded on the album Secret Story, (Page 289)

#### FACING WEST (Metheny)

Waltham, 1987. Actually written in the same session as "Last Irain Home" and "Minuano," but didn't find a home until Secret Story. The tune was built on the bass groove. Recorded on the album Secret Story. (Page 292)

#### CATHEDRAL IN A SUITCASE (Metheny)

Willow, NY, 1985–1989. A study in polyrhythms, specifically three over two. One of the first pieces written when "polyphonic sampling" became a reality on the Synclav. This one kept getting updated and revised all the way up to its recording on Secret Story. (Page 296)

#### AS A FLOWER BLOSSOMS (Metheny)

1989, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. A simple idea with a reference to the kind of diatonic ascending lines that I always love. Akiko Yano, a great Japanese composer and musician, wrote a short poem that is sung along with the melody when it happens at the end on the recording—which is where the title comes from, translated from Japanese. **Recorded on the album Secret Story**. (Page 299)

#### THE LONGEST SUMMER (Metheny)

1990, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Written and played on piano until the solo. A favorite from this period, especially the solo form. **Recorded on the album Secret Story.** (Page 300)

#### RAIN RIVER (Metheny)

1990, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Based on an ostinato figure played on the electric sitar. The melody is an early usage of the 42-string pikasso guitar, made by Linda Manzer, doubling a flute sound via the Synclav. **Recorded on the album Secret Story**. (Page 302)

# SEE THE WORLD (Metheny)

1989, Waltham, Mass. A difficult tune to solo on—one of the hardest ones, especially night after night. My brother Mike joined the excellent New York brass section that we assembled for the recording of this piece. Recorded on the album Secret Story. (Page 304)

#### SUNLIGHT (Metheny)

1990, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. An attempt to modulate to as many keys as I naturally could in the torm of a simple pop form. **Recorded on the album Secret Story.** (Page 308)

#### INORI (PRAYER) (Metheny)

1990, Waltham, Mass. A tune that somehow seemed to be inspired by Steven Foster, although I don't know that much about his music. The title came from Akiko Yano, who did a version of this piece in Japanese, its only recording at the time of this writing. Recorded by Akiko Yano. (Page 310)

# TAKE ANOTHER LOOK (Metheny)

1990, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Written after a long walk on the beach, through Leblon, through Ipanema, and home. Submitted to Gary Burton for a recording he was making around this time. **Recorded by Gary Burton**. (Page 312)

# TELL HER YOU SAW ME (Metheny)

1985, Willow, NY. A special one to play. Recorded on the album Secret Story. (Page 311)

# NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN (Metheny)

1988, Waltham, Mass. Using the multitrack recording feature of the Synclav, Lused to improvise "orchestral" pieces right into the recorder. This is one of them, fixed up and properly orchestrated. Recorded on the album Secret Story. (Page 314)

#### WE HAD A SISTER (Metheny)

1992, Santa Barbara, Calif. Written for the debut recording of Joshua Redman, for the album Wish. Because it was going to be a session without piano. I wanted to offer something that would be harmonically dense, yet guitaristic as well. This tune was also played each night on the tour that supported Secret Story tour. Recorded on the album Trio 99+00 and Joshua Redman's record Wish. (Page 315)

#### WHITTLIN' (Metheny)

1990. Actually written for the "Q & A" session, but not used. Reworked for Josh's record, Wish. Recorded by Joshua Redman. (Page 318)

#### DOUBLE GUATEMALA (Metheny)

1990. Written for the "Q & A" tour. This was a groove that Roy Haynes had a totally unique way of playing. It was also performed at the Berlin lazz Festival that year with special guest Gary Burton who went on to record it later with B.B. King. Recorded on the album Six Pack by Gary Burton. (Page 316)



1993, Willow, NY. Written for a collaboration record with John Scofield. It was fun and easy to get ideas for tunes by just imagining the potential ways that John and I could play together. This one was given its title because at one point during our warm-up gig in preparation for the recording, as I let the Roland guitar synth continue to sit on its guitar stand without being played, a guy in the audience loudly demanded that I play a tune on the "red one" (the Roland is kind of red). The title stuck. Recorded on the album I Can See Your House from Here. (Page 320)

#### MESSAGE TO A FRIEND (Metheny)

1993, Willow, NY. Also written for the Sco session, with a nod towards Charlie Haden, one of my best friends. The first few chords of this piece seemed to be very Charlie ish in conception; that's where the title comes from. This was a piece written on guitar, rare for me around this time. Recorded on the albums I Can See Your House from Here and Beyond the Missouri Sky. (Page 324)

#### S.C.O. (Metheny)

1993, Willow, NY. Also for the Sco session. Thinking about John and, again, the sound we could make together. We both love playing on changes, but this one was (and is) a really hard one. Bill Stewart totally owned this tune from the first and was great at negotiating the meter and phrase challenges of the tune. **Recorded on the album I Can See Your House from Here**. (Page 325)

#### SAY THE BROTHER'S NAME (Metheny)

1993, Willow, NY. Another for the Sco date. This tune was designed thinking about Steve Swallow's bass style and how much I love playing with him. With bass players in mind, that is also where the fille comes from—yet another nod to Jaco's horn line on "Come On, Come Over," which is why the tune is called what it is called. Recorded on the album I Can See Your House from Here, (Page 326)

#### QUIET RISING (Metheny)

1993, Willow, NY. A balled written for John and I to play together. Again, thoughts of Swallow and the many lessons I learned from him about tune writing and everything else about music entered into this one. **Recorded on the album I Can See Your House from Here.** (Page 319)

#### HERE TO STAY (Metheny/Mays)

1994, Miami, Fla: First in a batch of new tunes addressing some of the basic beats that seemed to permeate music across the stylistic boards during this period. Basically groove-oriented but with (hopefully) the kind of compositional and orchestrational attention to detail that we had always aspired towards. **Recorded on the album We Live Here**. (Page 328)

#### AND THEN I KNEW (Metheny/Mays)

1994, Miami, Fla. Like the others in this batch, based on a groove. On this one, we let our imaginations go in terms of the form—a constantly shifting set of changes unrelated to the initial melody and at a different subdivision, etc. Great release section by Lyle after the guitar solo. **Recorded on the album We Live Here**. (Page 331)

# THE GIRLS NEXT DOOR (Metheny/Mays)

1994, Miami, Fla. Another of the rare vamp-based tunes in our book. This one really was inspired by long walks around Miami and just hearing how often I would hear this particular tempo and groove come up. This track later became one of the most played tracks used by dancers at clubs in Chicago where there was a dance craze for a few years called "Steppin'." I always liked the bridge/interlude section in this that tyle wrote for Mark Ledford to play, which is in harmonic contrast to the main blues form of the basic tune. Recorded on the album We Live Here. (Page 336)

# SOMETHING TO REMIND YOU (Metheny/Mays)

1994, Miami, Fla. One of my recent favorite collaborations with Tyle. We both love Earth, Wind & Fire, and this tune is a sort of homage to the kinds of melodic stretches that that band used to introduce to worldwide audiences regularly when they had the ear of pop radio. The out-vamp of this tune is something special for us. **Recorded on the album** *We Live Here* and later by E, W & F lead singer, Phillip Bailey. (Page 338)

# TO THE END OF THE WORLD (Metheny/Mays)

1994, Miami, Fla. Kind of in the same family of turies like "Are You Going With Me?" and "557." This one was another where we took a very common heat and tried to do something of our own with it. I have always loved the more long-form tunes that the group has been committed to exploring—pieces in the eight to ten minute range. This record (*We Live Here*) is one that seemed to confuse less open-minded listeners, but to me it contains some of our best writing of this period. **Recorded on the album We Live Here.** (Page 342)

#### WE LIVE HERE (Metheny/Mays)

1994, Miami, Fla. Originally thought of as a kind of modern "folk" song, it wound up with an almost industrial tone to it. Written the last day of our writing time together as kind of an afterthought, it ended up being the title tune of the record. **Recorded on the album We Live Here.** (Page 346)

#### RED SKY (Metheny/Mays)

1994, Miami, Fla. Another great Lyle 6/4 groove. We hammered out the melody and the playing form as a vehicle for the Roland to solo over for this record. One that never seemed to translate to live performance, as sometimes happens. **Recorded on the album We Live Here**. (Page 348)

# STRANGER IN TOWN (Metheny/Mays)

1994, Miami, Fla. One of the rare cases where a tune of ours was based on what

would have to be called a "riff"—a guitar lick. This kind of a form and these kinds of changes remain always stimulating to play and to solo over. **Recorded on the album We Live Here.** (Page 352)

# QUARTET (INTRODUCTION) (Metheny)

1995, New York, NY. Actually based on an idea that I had had floating around since high school—the first two lines of this piece were written in '72 or so. It took this long to finally finish it—although I feel there is quite a bit of exploration ahead for me in this particular harmonic vocabulary that I hope to investigate further in the future. Recorded on the album Quartet. (Page 355)

# WHEN WE WERE FREE (Metheny)

1995, New York, NY. All of the pieces for this record (*Quartet*) were written very quickly—basically over a long weekend; that was part of the challenge of this record. This one was a groove that I thought Steve and Paul would be especially good at, again a kind of slow, ostinato groove tune. **Recorded on the album Quartet** and another version by singer Kevin Mahogany. (*Page 356*)

#### AS I AM (Metheny)

1995, New York, NY. Writing ballads is one of my favorite things to do, and I believe this and the other ballads on this record were all written within a few hours of each other—such was the writing climate of this particular record (*Quartel*). This tune really came to life when Mike Brecker played it a few years later. **Recorded on the album Quartel** and later the Mike Brecker album **Time is of the Essence**. (Page 358)

#### SEVEN DAYS (Metheny)

1995, New York, NY. A tune that starts in "seven" and gradually gets more metrically "in" as it moves along. Not especially enjoying improvising in odd meters, I did write a more conventional playing form based on what the tune suggested. This is a tune that I hope to play more often in the future—we never really played it again after we recorded it that day. **Recorded on the album Quartet**. (Page 360)

#### **SOMETIMES I SEE** (Metheny)

1995, New York, NY. A slow waltz with a melody that opens up a bunch of potential for soloing. Kind of the flip side of "When We Were Free." A tune that came in a really natural way, almost as one long idea—a quality that I always hope for in composition and in improvisation. **Recorded on the album** *Quartet.* (Page 359)

#### LANGUAGE OF TIME (Metheny/Mays)

1995, New York, NY. Because this record was to be made using a new kind of technology for this time, 24-bit multitrack recording, we joked a lot about wanting to use a lot of "24-bit" chords—chords that had a lot of interest in their upper structures. Iyle came up with this one. Together we wrote the main melody, using a slide guitar played with an E-Bow as a main ensemble sound. This became the vehicle for the Roland 300 on this record. Recorded on the album *Quartet*. (Page 362)

#### MOJAVE (Metheny)

1995, New York, NY. A similar melody to "Sometimes I See"—this time to be played by Steve Rodby on the bass. All about the vibe of it. This center section of this record is some of the darkest music the PMG has done, and some of my favorite recordings of the band. **Recorded on the album Quartet.** (Page 367)

# SECOND THOUGHT (Metheny)

1995, New York, NY. A sketch that set a mood, built to set up a kind of textural improvisation. **Recorded on the album Quartet**. (Page 368)

#### TEARS OF RAIN (Metheny)

1995, New York, NY. Written on and designed to feature the Linda Manzer—made acoustic sitar guitar. The overtones from this instrument are very particular, and this tune was first presented on the duet record that Charlie Haden and I did around this time. A version on conventional guitar worked okay, too, on *Like Minds* with Gary Burton and Chick Corea. I always was thinking about Elvin Jones for the blowing section of this tune—even on the Charlie version which didn't even have drums on it. Recorded on the albums *Beyond the Missouri Sky* and *Like Minds.* (*Page* 369)

#### ON THE NIGHT YOU WERE BORN (Metheny)

1995, New York, NY. A piece written for a quinter date led by drummer Tony Williams. I knew that Herbie Hancock was going to be on the date, and I wanted to bring in a tune that would allow him to do the kind of accompaniment that only he can do. I also knew that Mike Brecker would be there, and I wanted to write something that we could do the unison thing that we love to do together. This piece was dedicated to Ana Maria Shorter, wife of saxophonist Wayne Shorter. Recorded on the Tony Williams album Wilderness. (Page 370)

#### FOR A THOUSAND YEARS (Metheny)

1996, New York, NY. A piece written for the group Bass Desires, a group led by bassist Marc Johnson featuring Bill Frisell and Joey Baron that I joined for this one recording. I wanted to write something for Bill and I to play where we could really blend our sounds in a setting that had a fairly dense harmonic vocabulary. This piece was also recorded on the album Like Minds. Recorded on the albums The Sound of Summer Running and Like Minds. (Page 371)

# PASSAGGIO PER IL PARADISO (MAIN THEME) (Metheny)

1996, New York, NY. The main theme from the Italian film of the same name, featuring the great American actress, Julie Harris. The film is a "road movie" that takes place in the Marche region of Italy, one of my favorite parts of one of my favorite countries. I have spent a lot of time driving around this region of Italy myself, so I really just tried to write music that had the feeling of that particular place as viewed from a car. Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film Passaggio Per II Paradiso. (Page 372)

#### MARTA'S THEME (Metheny)

1996, New York, NY. The theme for Julie Harris's character, Marta, in the *Passaggio* film. A special one for me—Ms. Harris's performance was inspiring, and I wanted to write a piece of music that reflected her human wisdom and sensibility. **Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film** *Passaggio Per II Paradiso***. (***Page 376***)** 

#### DON'T FORGET (RENATO'S THEME) (Metheny)

1996, New York, NY. Written for the character played here by Tcheky Karyo. The piece only appears near the end of the movie, when Renato is faced with an important life decision. One of the rate times that my actual piano playing wound up on a record. Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film Passaggio Per II Paradiso and the album fim Hall and Pat Metheny. (Page 374)

#### IMAGINARY DAY (Metheny/Mays)

1997. New York, NY. One of the most important goals of the PMG has been to explore longer form pieces. We have always enjoyed trying to work in ways that transcended idiomatic distinction, and have been seriously committed to finding answers to musical questions that go beyond the obvious. With the *Imaginary Day* record and the pieces we wrote for it, we really tried to up the ante towards this goal (and trying to lit these pieces into the "lead sheet" form of this book, as is the case with some of the earlier more involved group pieces, was not at all easy). This piece was originally conceived to feature the frelless classical guitar—a new instrument—but it quickly morphed into something far beyond just being a vehicle for a new guitar—it became a real attempt to try for a new set of ensemble sounds and techniques for the PMG. **Recorded on the album Imaginary Day**. (Page 389)

#### FOLLOW ME (Metheny/Mays)

1997, New York, NY. The entire melody is found on the open harmonics of a conventionally tuned guitar. Kind of loosely inspired by the music of Shawn Colvin from around this time—but taken to some odd places harmonically for the solo section before resolving to a single key. (One of the funniest things surrounding this adorementioned solo section was that it was once described to me by a contemporary radio programmer as being "atonal," something that says a lot about the odd culture that a lot of this music was created in.) Recorded on the album Imaginary Day. (Page 386)

# THE HEAT OF THE DAY (Metheny/Mays)

1997, New York, NY. Played on the Manzer sitar/guitar; a piece that further addresses our interest in ensemble playing and long melodic development. The basic melodic phrase of the piece is continually shifting rhythmically and is a real challenge to play live. One of the more complex pieces that the group has recorded, and one of my real favorite collaborations with Tyle. **Recorded on the album Imaginary Day.** (Page 3272)

#### THE AWAKENING (Metheny/Mays)

1997, New York, NY. The basic tune was actually written as part of a demo for a proposed film score that never materialized. I showed it to Lyle who took the theme and did an expansion on it, which is the section that immediately follows the basic "AABA" form. It was never performed live; somehow it just seemed destined to be a studio piece. To describe the form of this piece in its entirety in any kind of reduced way was really impossible—as a result there are a lot of pages in the book for this tune. Recorded on the album Imaginary Day. (Page 394)

#### THE ROOTS OF COINCIDENCE (Metheny/Mays)

1997, New York, NY, We have always been interested in the use of dynamics and contrast. And the question of what could be possible with sound itself has always been a major component of the group's mission. This tune, which draws on bebop as much as the overt rock textures (a hard combination to make work) was an attempt to create a different guitar vocabulary for me (using the VG-8 in combination with the Synclav guitar triggering a saxophone sample, all slightly distorted) with a new ensemble sound for us. This track really expanded our sense of what the PMG could be both on a writing and improvisational level—an important step for us. Recorded on the album *tmaginary Day*. (Page 401)

#### ACROSS THE SKY (Metheny/Mays)

1997, New York, NY. A piece that Lyle brought in for this record. There were just a few melodic contributions from me, mainly the tag at the end of the main melody. **Recorded on the album** *Imaginary Day.* (Page 404)

# A STORY WITHIN A STORY (Metheny/Mays)

1997, New York, NY. A tune connected to "So May It Secretly Begin" and "557," in that the bass line defines the sound of the tune and the form. Probably the most conventional tune on this record. **Recorded on the album** *Imaginary Day.* (Page 406)

# TOO SOON TOMORROW (Metheny)

1997, New York, NY. Written during the actual recording of the album one night after a session. We were kind of short one tune, and this one fit nicely with the other music. Written and performed more like the way we did on the *Quartet* record—very quickly. **Recorded on the album Imaginary Day.** (Page 410)

# BALLAD Z (Metheny)

1993, Willow, NY. A tune that I felt would be nice with two guitars—Gil Goldstein actually did several arrangements of this tune for various projects before it finally found a home on the collaboration record with Jim Hall. **Recorded on the album Jim Hall and Pat Metheny.** (Page 412)

# A MAP OF THE WORLD (Metheny)

1998, New York, NY. June Hamilton's book provided the inspiration for this piece. The complexity of small town culture in the American midwest is fully explored in her powerful novel. Written using a miniature Linda Manzer steel string guitar tuned up a fourth from conventional tuning. Dedicated to my son Nicolas Djakeem Metheny. Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film A Map of the World. (Page 414)

#### FAMILY (Metheny)

1999, New York, NY. While the title piece defined the tone of the score, this piece, also from A Map of the World, became the main melodic theme for the Goodwin family throughout the film. Again played on the Manzer soprano six-string guitar. Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film A Map of the World. (Page 416)

#### HOMECOMING (Methenv)

1999, New York, NY. Late in the score for A Map of the World, the tension is broken, and the score changes tone, becoming more upbeat. This is the piece that ushers that change. Based on the ascending harmonic feeling that pervades the harmonic character of the score. Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film A Map of the World. (Page 418)

#### **OUTCASTS** (Methenv)

1999, New York, NY. The theme associated with the role of Howard, played by actor David Straitham in the film A Map of the World. A simple song to go with a simple man in a difficult situation. Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film A Map of the World. (Page 413)

#### HOLDING US (Metheny)

1999. New York, NY. A full treatment of the theme in the *Map* score that addresses change through the events that happen to people when they often least expect it. This was originally intended to be the music for the final credits. As often happens in the scoring world, there was a need to cut about two minutes off the ending credits, so another piece from the soundtrack album (completed by the time that decision was made) was substituted. This piece only exists at the end of the soundtrack album. **Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film A Map of the World.** (Page 420)

#### RESOLUTION (Metheny)

1999, New York, NY. After the score for Map was done and delivered, I started work on the soundtrack album, combining the cues from the film with expansions and improvisations based on the themes, and generally taking liberties with the material that time constraints prevented in the actual movie. This piece is something that I dreamed up by imagining a scene that doesn't exist either in the film or the book. There is a point where Howard must resolve himself to take care of his family and essentially do the right thing. This is a musical description of what he might have been thinking as he reminisced over his life with his family and the implications of his current actions on his future. Recorded on the soundtrack album for the film A Map of the World. (Page 425)

#### TIMELINE (FOR FLVIN) (Metheny)

1999, New York, NY. One of the real thrills of my life as a musician has been occasionally participating in music with Michael Brecker, one of the most brilliant improvising musicians I have ever been around. When Mike decided to do a record featuring organ tplayed by the talented young player Larry Goldings) and Elvin Jones, I was inspired to write this utilizing something that might be found in one of Elvin's famous cross rhythms. Recorded on the Michael Brecker album Time Is of the Essence. (Page 428)

# WHAT DO YOU WANT? (Metheny)

1999, New York, NY. This was the first of five new tunes written for the trio of Larry Grenadier on bass and Bill Stewart on drums at the end of our summer worldwide tour. I had never really written a "rhythm changes" tune, and thought I would try. Recorded on the album *Trio* 99—00. (Page 429)

#### IUST LIKE THE DAY (Metheny)

1999, New York, NY. Traveling in Italy playing concerts is one of the real thrills of my life as a musician. I can't begin to say how much I appreciate the audiences and the beauty of the playing situations there. I wanted to write a tune that captured the feeling of what it is like to travel around Italy in the summer playing for those wonderful people in those wonderful places. Recorded on the album Trio 99—400. (Page 43.2)

#### THE SUN IN MONTREAL (Metheny)

1974/1999, Montreal/New York, NY. This piece was actually started some 25 years before it was finished–for the recording of the trio in '99. Montreal remains one of my favorite places, but especially in the summer. This was started on a hot summer day in Montreal in 1974 while on tour with the Burton Quintet. **Recorded on the album** *Trio* 99→00. (Page 430)

#### SOUL COWBOY (Metheny)

1999, New York, NY. When playing trio gigs over the years, it has always been nice to start the night out with something simple like a blues, not too fast. This is a piece specifically designed to provide that function. The title came from something a guy out on the street in front of the recording studio yelled to someone just as I walked in for a mixing session. Somehow it summed up the tune. Recorded on the album Trio 99—00. (Page 435)

# (GO) GET IT (Metheny)

1999, New York, NY. Another in the batch of new tunes written for the *Trio* 99→00 album. Sometimes, writing a tune that features a similar vocabulary as one's general playing vocabulary can provide improvisational insight. Playing a fast blues has always been a favorite zone for me in that regard. Played in the key of A major, a rarely explored key for this kind of playing. **Recorded on the album** *Trio* 99→00. (Page 436)

# Thoughts on Improvisation, Composition, and Musical Conception

"Having grown up in one of the most exciting and turbulent periods in music history (the sixties and seventies), one of the biggest challenges for my own and subsequent generations of musicians has been to reconcile the elements of the tradition as defined by the masters that have influenced us so deeply with the particular realities of the world that we find ourselves living in and the changing terrain that identifies the musical fabric of our era from others. Ultimately, playing standards and blues, as much as I loved doing it, just was not enough for me to feel like I was living up to the responsibility of what the deeper message of that tradition, in a broader sense, seemed to imply. As I really looked at all of my heroes, I realized that there was far more than simply an 'idiom' at work here-these were musicians literally manifesting into sound the ideas and feelings that not only evoked, but defined the particular feeling of their living culture and its technology into sound through music. I am still constantly and will always be working on ways of playing better in those settings where there are clear markers and signposts left by the masters. But to focus exclusively on that ultimately felt like a way out from the much more difficult and essential task of finding my own particular musical syntax based on the language that I learned from playing in those environments that reflected not the theoretical ideals that I may have glimmered from stepping into someone else's shoes through emulation or transcription, but things that were true to me, that were resonant to me and had meaning to the time I found myself living in. I made a commitment to focus on and try to bring into sound the ideas I was hearing in my head that might not have existed until my time, things that were particular to what was possible spiritually, culturally, and technologically to the life experiences that had informed the development of my own personal aesthetic values."

—Downbeat magazine, 1998

"I realized, as my own playing was developing, that there was a way I wanted to play and write that really had almost nothing to do with what would be appropriate if I were playing or writing in more traditional idiomatic ways. In some ways, this was scary—there was no road map for this at all. As time went on, I tried to write tunes and attempted to set up playing situations that would feature those kinds of harmonic and melodic zones that I was interested in so that whatever emerging 'voice' that I may have had as an improvisor in those areas might get a chance to develop. I was very lucky to be around a few other musicians who had the same kinds of goals—to try to come up with a new way of thinking about the sound and role of our instruments and the way we wanted to change things, to expand the role of what our instruments."

-Downbeat magazine, 1998

"To me, in order to play the blues and make it have meaning, you have to tell your own story in your own words. To adopt the mannerisms, techniques and, 'idiomatic effects' of a master and ape them in the name of authenticity to a convoluted (and usually learned) ideal of a 'pure' style is to automatically disqualify yourself from singing your own song. For me, everything I play is the blues—that is, it is the cry, the manifestation of my own personal relationship with music. Sometimes I get much closer to the level of human expression that I want to communicate than others. I would say that the guys who are generally agreed to be the best 'blues' players are among the most successful musicians ever at manifesting into sound their reality as people. The same way they aspire to communicate the things that they have found

to be true, so do I. But the first priority for me is to use my own experiences and imagination to tell my own story, because that's the only one I can tell that will be true—the essential quality that any great music must have to resonate."

-PMGLN, 1999

"I would have to say that almost every attempt I have ever heard of someone trying to define what the 'pure' version of a particular idiom is, is almost always a futile act. Particularly when it comes to a very complex subject like the one of how music has developed in America over the past 150 years. Pretty much all of the (relatively) shorthand answers that you read about in books by self-appointed custodians of whichever branch of the tree that they are trying to define, fall flat in the face of the actual music. I guess by now, it is known that I am skeptical of the very idea of generalized and artificial idiomatic distinctions being made in the first place when it comes to music, and particularly as we progress more and more in a world where people all over the planet have access to all the music that has ever been recorded, it will be harder and harder to prop up the mythology of some kind of nonexistent 'purity' in music that for some reason continues to fester in the academic and pedantic minds that sometimes are given the unnecessary job of quantifying the unquantifiable.

—PMGLN, 1999

"Swing is not a style or a technique; any kind of music kind can swing. Surely the whole concept of swinging has been around from the days of the earliest musicians under different names in their different cultures—but the idea has to have always been there, so deep is its human resonance. Swing is everything that happens—and the way it happens—in between the notes. Swing is the glue that joins those notes, formed by a musician's sensitivity to time—on both micro and macro level—that bonds discrete ideas and musical gestures into phrases and forms a musician's fundamental personna. It is fed by the abilities of the players to listen to the musicians and the culture around them to find a way of illuminating and enhancing the collective meaning of their existence through time expressed as music."

—PMGLN, 1999

"In my experience, almost any form of musical purism is very often a mask for laziness. Things are never as simple as a purist would have you believe. Addressing the complexity of a world as multi-leveled as music—and especially jazz and its history—as a serious musician or listener eventually must, must always lead you to questions that fiercely fly in the face of the usual glib comments that are often found in books and magazines about the subject. I would always encourage anyone reading anything about any aspect of jazz to discount about 99 percent of what they read on the subject. Just listen to the music—it more than speaks for itself."

-PMGLN, 1999

"There is no such thing as 'fusion.' It was a termed coined in the seventies by marketing people and critics (and most often used by the latter in a pejorative way). Musicians, for the most part, have never used the term because it is simply ignorant at worst and redundant at best—all music ever has been a mix of one or more disparate (and usually at the time of conception, novel) influences—so in real terms, the idea of assigning the name 'fusion' to any one form of music over any other is completely meaningless now in an era where world communications make the tracing of any single new musical idea to a particular source

both easier than ever and at the same time almost completely irrelevant. New ideas and combinations of ideas become almost public domain upon conception in this new environment. When I see someone use the term 'fusion' as if it has any real meaning, it almost always winds up being more of statement about that person-and often their limited or uninformed perspective of recent music history-than the music in question. What I have tried to do with my own music is the same thing that has been an important part of many (named and unnamed) traditions from the very beginning. That is, to reconcile the particular elements of the world that I have found myself living in as a musicianspecifically in my case, the harmonic, rhythmic, and melodic materials of all of the human and natural music of the fifties, sixties, seventies, eighties, and nincties that I have been exposed to and loved and the musical instrument technology (pianos, guitars, drumsets, other acoustic and electric instruments, brass and woodwind instruments, occasional string orchestras, samplers, synthesizers—all the available sound making tools of our time) of that same period-with a personal vision of improvisation."

-PMGLN, 1999

"The most important commitment you can make is to the music fan that lives inside of you, to find out just what it is about music that really, really knocks you out. In that discovery, you'll find most of what you need to know to take you wherever you need to so."

# -Berklee Commencement Address, 1996

"Really good, serious musical work has a way of finding its way out to the people. Rarely, if ever after all these years, have I run across someone who has something that they've developed that's truly valuable to offer as a musician who doesn't finally end up with opportunities to turn those ideas into some kind of a career. It may take awhile, certainly some stylistic paths offer different kinds of resistance than others, but usually the chances show up if what the musician has to offer is really strong, really sincere, and is honestly representive of who they are as musicians, regardless of the stylistic zone."

# -Berklee Commencement Address, 1996

"The elements that make up the top level of someone's music—what it sounds like, what the obvious influences are, the instrumentation, the virtuosity of it (or lack thereof)—all of these things to a certain degree simply make up the envelope that the music itself is delivered in... I tend to respond much more to the things that are included in the body of the message of the musicians who are playing than whatever there is stamped on the envelope that it came in."

-PMGLN, 1999

"Despite whatever kinds of traditional successes or failures that may or may not happen to a musician over the course of one's career, the best rewards you will receive are always embedded in the actual music itself that you will make. That is, you may or may not have success by the standards that society in general uses to quantify things like that, but the real genuine true success that transcends the day to day stuff is gonna be in the fact that you know about music and are intimately familiar with not only music itself, but the process of making it."

-Berklee Commencement Address, 1996

"When I think of the best improvisors I've been around, they all have one thing in common: Every idea that they have, they let it fully be itself, right up to its natural conclusion. So many improvisers that I hear, it's almost like soundbites: they play this, then it's over, then they play that, then that. The best solos that I've played, it's really one idea. You take that one idea, and you find a way of going with it to the end. That's something that I always encourage musicians to think more about, because that's something that non-musicians can respond to, a style that expands on single ideas so that anyone, musician or not, can follow the line."

-Musician magazine, 1997

"I always suggest that young musicians spend as much time as possible around musicians who are better than they are. Despite all of the excellent educational materials that are out there, music is still essentially a 'spoken' tradition, and the 'apprenticeship' system that has been a part of that tradition is in place for good reason. If you are the best guy in the band, get in another band!"

—PMGLN, 1998

"Improvising on chord changes is a lot like giving a speech about a fairly complex subject using fairly complex grammar—there is no way you can just wing it, you have to have done a lot of research into the subject and have a pretty wide ranging vocabulary that makes the language in all its potential available to you. Much in the same way that all of us are capable of kind of 'improvising' our sentences without really thinking too much about verbs, adjectives, pronouns, etc., a really good improvisor who has studied harmony and its implications for years can sort of just 'play.' But there is no getting around it, if you are serious about playing on a tune like 'I akes' or even 'Phase Dance' for that matter, you will have to know everything there is to know about the grammar of improvising as it has developed over this century. There are no shortcuts or quick fixes."

-PMGLN, 1998

"Music is almost a compulsion for me. But not in a bad way. It is just something that I need to do, that I love to do. And in many ways, I don't even see it as something having to do with what people call creativity. It's more like finding things that are already there anyway and just using the tools that one has accumulated through the insight of a lifetime of musical study and experience to shine a light on them to make them available for other people to check out if they want to. It's like archaeology or discovering other planets—the stuff is all there—we just have to find it by developing the right tools, tools that are refined enough yet powerful enough to find what is there without destroying it through the process of discovery."

-Jazzonline, 1998

"Sometimes you hear kids in a garage somewhere who can just barely play their instruments and are hitting it with a kind of ferocious, undeniable spirit that has a power and energy that no one else other than those kids playing on that day in that place will ever achieve in that particular way."

-PMGLN, 1999

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